

A REFLEX OF THE DRAMATIC EVENTS OF THE WEEK

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Foreign Melodrama and American Art. While abroad I received many inquiries from American managers and actors, which seems to point to England as a sort of Theatrical Land of Promise. 'Tis a painful delusion, and foolish. An English King once erected a palace upon a hospital. I question whether 'tis possible, even in the Republic of Art, to convert a charnel-house into a banquet

Most of our American managers appear eager, like the credulous dog in the fable, to surrender the substance for the shadow; to swap professional independence for servitude. The shadow, in this instance, I take to be the diseased melodrama of England; the servitude, that fatuous, shopkeeping policy which would impound the aspirations of Art among pennies in breeches pockets, and sell seed-corn to buy

No prospect of the future is clearer to my mind than that which pictures the American stage as the hope and refuge of the world. Without intending any general disparagement of our American managers, several of whom I know to possess superior ability, I must yet be permitted to say that, to my thinking, no course could more rudely antagonize this expectation, more seriously obstruct its realization, than that which for six or seven years past numbers of them have so persistently pursued.

A few years ago and our stage was adorned by the splendid genius of native artists. Forrest, Charlotte Cushman, Burke, Booth, Jefferson, Julia Dean, Wallack, Eliza Logan, Owens, Barrett, Clara Morris, Chanfrau, Edwin Adams, Lotta, Maggie Mitchell, Rose Eytinge, Mrs. Bowers, McCullough, Davenport and others. True, many of these have disappeared behind the shadows of the grave. But what has become of the art they enthusiastically loved and brilliantly illustrated?

It will not serve to answer, as has been thoughtlessly answered, that the American public have ceased to care for intellectual recreation, have lost interest in the artistic theatre, and now only look for show where once they sought instruction. The surpassing success of the poetic drama, wherever and whenever properly presented in our country, is a complete refutation of the assertion. 'Tis entirely safe to say that within the past ten years (the period of its deepest degradation, as many Jeremiahs have asked us to believe) the receipts of the intellectual drama, when represented by recognized interpreters, have more than doubled the combined receipts of all the sensational rot and melodramatic trash which has been permitted to usurp a position of re-

Set on one hand the receipts of all the most the American stage in the preceding fifteen years: (Black Crook, White Fawn, Humpty-Dumpty, British Blondes, Youth, The World, Lights o' London, and others of the same type), and on the other hand set the receipts of Booth, Jefferson, Ristori, Mary Anderson Barrett, Sara Bernhardt, Modjeska, McCullough, Salvini and Henry Irving, all representatives of High Art-of the "legitimate" drama-and the result, if honestly stated, will be found in favor of the latter-two to one!

It is customary for ill-informed critics, when writing upon this subject, to quote in evidence of the unpopularity of the "legitimate" drama, the alleged business failures in that connection of Macready and Kean in England, and of glorious Edwin Booth in New York. The evidence is fallacious. Losses there undoubtedly were, and heavy ones, too, but they sprang less out of popular neglect, or out of artistic ambition, than out of a too extravagant expenditure; in plainer terms, they sprang out of bad commercial management. Macready's Tempest proved a disastrous production for him (as for similar reasons it proved disastrous to me in New York many years afterward). Yet, if my memory serves, his average receipts were about £200 a night; a greater average by fifty per cent. than any theatre in London, the Lyceum alone, perhaps, excepted, can show in the past five

Edwin Booth's average receipts in the mag nificent theatre which caused his temporary ruin, were over \$800 a night. There is not a theatre in America, not one, which could show as large an average for the same time. But in his ambitious desire to please the public Mr. Booth engaged a splendid and expensive com-pany (with the exception of my own at the Grand Opera House in 1869, and Mr. Daly's the succeeding year, its equal has not been upon. The "combination system" which proseen in New York since), shared with "stars," mised the maximum of theatrical profit, with after ridiculously low figures, was plundered the minimum of managerial risks, is already

right and left, and forced into bankruptcy at last for the protection of honest creditors.

But an argument was needed to justify the shopkeepers' policy of purely, or rather imourely, speculative managers ("adventurers" they used to be called in the early days of the drama), and the one I quote was given. The responsibility for perverting public taste, and throttling dramatic art, is a serious one, and of course managers, as a class, decline to shoulder it. They, plausibly enough, declare that it should rest upon the exactions of the "stars." If so, then the latter have had the tables most awfully turned upon them. The triumph is not one, however. over which thoughtful managers can long exult. The "starring" system may be temporarily dead, so far as it applies to individual "stars," but it thrives with weedlike vigor in the melodramas which have succeeded the former,

moribund; and there are scarcely good actors enough in all the country to organize a dozen first-rate stock companies. So great is the need in this particular, that "leading" people, imported and otherwise, of very mediocre abilities, command, I am told, for merely memorizing a few sentences of very common place dialogue, almost as much money in one week as Forrest, Adams, Davenport and other great actors used severally to receive for their magnificent artistic creations, in two.

What, then, is left the average speculative manager? Nothing, seemingly, but complete dependence upon incompetent foreign dramatists, upon melodramatic productions, which are 'available chiefly because, as a rule (there are shining exceptions of course), they require little brains, and less art, because the scenicpainter and his coadjutor, the stage carpenter, supplemented by the pictorial printer, fill the

death, suddenly litted his hand to his mouth and exclaimed: "Great heaven! I have swallowed the file !" and fell dead, hit upon a descenes of these London melodra it pays!" London playwrights (not pl writers; they are as little connected with erature as with the Church) receive more money in one season, if their stories are to believed, than Shakespeare received in the six-teen years of his labors. And certain American managers who blindly help to swell this income with enormous "royalties" boast the fact with complacency. Imagine the o grese cackling exultingly over a supposed demand for pate de foie gras,

And 'tis this stuff which has suppress matic poets and hobbled histrionic art, which is to asphyxiate the intellectual drama in The only persons benefitted by this regretted places previously accupied by good actors, and America. Forbid it Wallack, Palmer, Nor-

of America, but I beg pe my belief that a small fra paid for peralcious melods

the Florences and others.

All of these, with two or the failed in the practical sense of that they were "well recommended they were "well recommended to the second that they determined their praise." That they determined their praise."

er in all our co

I do not think the less of Cousin ; this. I have seen something of the imp practised upon his sympathics and his es in the name of America ered sometimes at the paties stood them. To palm off 'ch and not only de ulent, but visit it with a ver entirely legal, res

Solomon is going to try his luck as time at the Standard Theatre with Tin Soldier notoristy, as his libret hope Hoyt will do better than his sors, for, of a truth, Solomon has a Never was composer more throw away good music on be of the variety and farcical



ROBERT DOWNING AS SPARTACUS (The Gladiator).

change are the concoctors of all this trashthe so called "dramatists." The injury done to the public by the substitution of the photographer's lens for the "mirror of nature," is incalculable. They have acquired, it is true. many very handsome and very unprofitable opera houses, but have lost nearly all that should render such resorts attractive-intellectual plays and competent players.

The most seriously injured of all are those adventuring managers themselves, without whose consent this deceptive transformation could not well have taken place. They have been "left" in the quicksands of the specu with which their eyes do yet "glare withal," and confronted there with the unpleasant pro-ability of being eventually engulfed in run.

There are no available stars now to fall back upon. The "combination system" which pro-

ingeniously contrive to cover over the conse-

And what as a class are the most of these wretched melodramas which are now said to be the popular theatrical delight? Productions which, though sought for with break-neck speed by many American managers, are repulsed with scorn from the intellectual and artistic theatres of England, France and Germany. Flat and commonplace in form, talse in motive, smelling of stable-lofts and reeking with odors of gutters. The very best of three must be excepted—Jim the Penman. It was stage-carpentry of the most improbable character. The actor who in the familiar old anecdote had forgotten his dagger in the play, and realizing the dramatic necessity of his

ton, Ford, McVicker, Hooley! Forbid it all ye managers who still honor the dignity of true art, the traditions of the legitimate str

Insane parents have slain their own children; is the murderous practice therefore to be continued? Is it wise or necessary that the United States should become the slop-bucket of London? I think not. The land which has produced and educated Edwin Booth, Joseph Jefferson, Mary Anderson, John Owen and Clara Morris-incomparable all, alike in genius as in art—has no need to borrow from England any of the froth or fury which con-I saw in London last season, portrayed no rec. ognizable feature of humanity, revealed no stitute the almost sole sustenance of her stage wholesome sentiment of society, depicted not one natural phase of real life. One play alone must be excepted—Jim the Penman. It was spect and esteem of every actor who loves his art-what has England given us? What has she to give us worth the baving? Absolutely

m the old Fr bits of caricature and so tell ing likewise admirably acted by Wilson. The latter has done well off the Cockney mask he was induced at first. There is no reason why he d drop his h's because the Lon native of the part dropped his natpretty, jingly and catching—not real-music, but never offensive nor dull,

The statement published by the American era company is very comforting, inasmuch us that the projectors and bearers w the usual plan of backers who fail to get Alvidendr-i.c., backing out. We may look our national opera as a fixed fact. If it well and good; if it loses, we have publicpirited people in plenty to shoulder the loss and put things square again. We are not ed aid from taxes, as they do in France. We do not ask people with no ears for music to pay for what they do not want d cannot enjoy. No; we put our hands p into our pockets and pay for it ourselves. ore power to our elbows for that same. Mrs. Thurber, Mrs. Carnegie and their worthy borers in the field of music have done, are ng, and will do, more for the cause of true art than all the autocrats and aristocrats of the Old World have done, are doing, or will do.

McCaull is going to give us Falka again, and we hope and believe that he will find no deon in his treasury thereby. Falka is pretty, lively opera, and though most vilely misused by Farsie in the English misadaptation, has still vitality enough left to survive the

Ixion has had a most profitable run at Koste and Bial's, aided by the very clever specialties and specialty workers employed. All that is good accordingly.

Neuendorff's concerts at the Central Park en are much to be commended. He ses good music—not too persistently above ds of the people, but judiciously min gled. But, whether classical or popular, the ic is always best of its kind and done phly well. He has adopted the Covent a fashion of giving nights devoted to ial subjects and composers, as "the wen night," "the Wagner night" and, oular night." This is likely to all, as devotees of the various scho can gratify their tastes on their appropriate and stay away on the others. One g may be counted on, whatever night one

At the Theatres.

Humbug still makes mirth galore at the ing hard despite the heat, and their efforts are ed,-On Friday night Richard Mansates the rooth performance of Prince Karl by giving all his patrons pretty silver rings s. - The season is just now at its lowat ebb. Preliminary engagements of various is will shortly cause the managers to take their shutters down again and invite the public to inspect their Fall stock of dramatic goods.

A Talk with Charles Frohi

Charles Frohman arrived in the city on Monday from San Francisco, after being away ut ten weeks, and on Tuesday was seen by

finnon reporter.
'The first four weeks of Messrs, Dan. Froh an and Al. Hayman's dramatic season at the was a loss," he said, "but andon cleared \$2,500 for the man eks, and with Modjesand in the neighb all out shead on the whole o for the bad business was t the people who patronize the higher class nts were out of the city. Sum r business for San Francisco is good for er style of attraction. For instance rain did splendidly in Cad the Tomy and other light plays.

For the Madison Sq season the outlook is that a very large will be done, especially with Jim the has made a great hit. I saw ming through Chicago, and I preit will run the Winter season through w York. Messrs, Hayman and ng, as they believe e of the San Francisco peomt year attempt another Sum-The Duff Opera company, con-ty-five people, will follow Palat the Baldwin. Of all the

ately on his arrival he will se the range direction of the Lyceum

n in San Francisco. Colonel S ed the play Far scination for her. It is or of Alone in London. The nel is reported to have paid \$3 000 as a deposit. Fascination is a high comedy of The an adaptation; is claimed to be original out. It will also give Miss Tanner an opportunity to appear in a dressy part. It is not Colonel Sinn's intention to produce the new play until Alone in London begins to ane. He will then take a New York theatre for its production."

Prince Karl's Prospects.

"We have already booked thirty-six weeks for Prince Karl," said Richard Mansfield's man ager to a MIRROR representative, "and there are but three one-night stands. Mr. Mansfield, as you know, is comparatively a new star, yet the terms we have obtained are those that are only accorded to attractions that have been on the road for years. We have any number of Fair dates, and managers are writing to us to make their time two weeks instead of one. We shall have eight weeks altogether in New York during the coming season; four in Boston in all probability, and five in Chicago.

"The company on the road will be about the ame as that now playing at the Madison Square. Mr. Mansfield went up another thousand dollars, making his offer \$2,000 for two of Mr. Gillette's weeks, but that gentleman refused, as he is very anxious to produce his play. Outside of the artistic merits of the play. both Mr. Mansfield and myself believe that the success of Prince Karl is due to the fact that all the money spent is spent on the press, there being no lithographs out, no printing, and consequently no rush of deadheads. This same system will be kept up on the road.

"Our ice cream innovation has proved such a success that quite a number of out of town managers think of opening their season with the distribution of some such delicacy. Charles O. White, the Detroit manager, has asked me as a favor to attend to getting the boxes, napkins, spoons and all complete for him, while he will provide the cream in his own city."

The New Minstrel Home

"The decorators have just begun work in the interior of the erstwhile Comedy Theatre,' said Lewis Dockstader to a MIRROR reporter who met him at the entrance to that house the other day, "and I expect to have the house open on Saturday night, Sept. 18. The orchestra will be under the leadership of William Mullally, and among the singers I have already engaged are John E. McWade, Charles Noble, Joseph Garland, T. B. Dixon Mr. Smith and a phenomenal alto singer named Jose. I am also corresponding with a number of people in London.

"I intend to have a bright and cosy little theatre. A decided novelty will be that all the seats will be reserved. Everybody will get a coupon and check for his seat, no matter where he is to sit, nor what he has paid for his seat. Frank Siddall has telegraphed me from Europe to hold back on building the entrance, buying the seats and contracting for the curtain; so I am led to expect that he has certain novelties or new ideas of some kind that he wishes to have introduced. I expect him back in the city on one of the Cunard steamers about August 7.

"Regarding new features, all that I can say is that we shall depart from conventional minstrelsy. There will be a boycott on chestuuts Special attention will be paid to scenic effects. That will, I am sure, be quite a novelty in the line of minstrelsy. We shall have panoramic and elaborate change scenery and mechanical effects.

"There will be twenty-three people in the first-part and but two end men. No eight or ten dressed up monkeys. There will be no jewelry worn on the stage-the flashing nond must be left at home. Everything will be local, and every dramatic success will be burlesqued, something new being given about every two weeks. For instance, Wilson Barrett comes over and makes a hit-the fol lowing Monday night we burlesque him. I have several people who will work with me in getting up the burlesques, but I will do the major part of it."

Daddy Nolan Departs. "Nearly all of the time at Tony Pastor's that is, until Mr. Pastor returns on October is booked with combinations," said Dan Sully to a MIRROR reporter yesterday, "In the meanwhile I shall spend the Summer at the Villa du Sully in Newport. I bought my cotknown, but Newport has the honor of being my birthplace. Last week my donkey-which is, by the way, a real Irish donkey-and Master Malvey went down there last week and next week we are all going out fishing. I shall open my season proper at Newport on August 17, playing Daddy Nolan, which will be the piece de resistance all the season, although The Corner Grocery will be played in any city where there is a demand for it."

Hippodroming the Theatre.

great Sardon having, in his m we, we believe, a faithful recorder of ion across the frontier of mere an intelligent actress and intend

orts that her new drama by the French playwright will be what the playbill call a remarkable production, with lions and tigers and elephants and all. "I am," she ndidly asserts, " to enter the lion's den ; at least that is the present plan. I have agreed to do so if the lion is half-way decently in clined. Bernhardt did it, and I am going to equal her performance at that point at any rate. Still, I do not promise it completely. It all depends on the lion

Here is a glint of grim humor from the brave little actress; but should it so happen that the king of beasts takes a fancy to chew her up, pone and all, could the entrepeneur afford to furnish so dainty a mouthful for the beast every night? And so it has come to this! Sardou has got down to nature at last, even though it be quadrupedal and not bi-footed. The genuine wild beast, heretofore disguise in human form, shows itself on all fours.

As the eminent and all-conquering French trananner has turned his back on mortal exsures of passion and fury and taken to the circus, may not one or more of our American dramatists, heretofore overawed by the Gallic code, take courage and bring forward some of their mountain pictures of life and adventure, the diabolism and ferocity of human nature, leaving to a supreme artist such as Mr. Sardou to give us the beastly, the cunning and the sonance of savagery to be presented by its normal representatives of the jungle and the wilderness.

Without driving the question too far home, e may or not cherish a hope that contempo aneous dramatists, now that the French con tingent has shown itself in its true colors, take heart and come to the rescue of the theatre with plays written on the scheme of men and women, developing human and humane endowments, forming the objects of interest on

Is human nature so driven to the wall by norbid anatomists and the contortions o strained ingenuity that it is compelled to take to the circus and to call in the beasts of the field as dramatis persona.

No wonder that such playwrights as we have become, crook-backed and cross-eyed by straining backbone and optics, in contemplating the unnatural antics of the stage originaed in the superheated atmosphere of Europe.

By such wild departures from all that is leritimate and wholesome, the field of nature and uman character is left free to be taken possession of by cis-Atlantic writers, who are free to deal with proper subjects of their own selection.

It would seem as if we had been dominated so long by alien monstrosities that we are held to be submissive culprits for whatever absurd venture upon decency and credulity may be undertaken and foisted upon us by the foreign speculators and showmen,

Some Foreign Mems. From an Occasional Correspondent.

LONDON, July 14.

The other day the Baroness and Mr. Burdett Coutts entertained the members of the Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire and the representatives of the colonies and India at a garden party at Holly Lodge, Highgate, the favorite residence of the Baroness, and the most beautiful seat in London's northern heights. There were about two thousand guests, who were most gra ciously received by the Baroness and her husand, Mr. Burdett-Coutts. The band of the Coldstream Guards discoursed delightful music in the grounds. Elaborate refreshments were provided in marquees specially erected in the spacious grounds.

The most distinguished literary and society people in London were present. Among these were the Earl and Countess of Eddesleigh, Lord and Lady Seafield, Lord and Lady Esher. Lady Falmouth and daughters, the Duchess of Marlhorough, the Countess of Harrington, the Belgian Minister, the Chinese Minister, Sir Saul and Lady Samuel, the Commissioners for the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, Mr. and Mrs. Saville Clarke, Miss Annie Wake man, of the Boston Herald, and others.

It was one of the most aristocratic gather ings of the London season now rapidly growing to its brilliant close. MIRROR readers will be interested to recall the fact that the Baroness is the step-grand-daughter of the great Harriet Melton, whose pure life and dramatic gifts did so much to elevate the English stage. Harriet Mellon married the rich banker to the Crown, the widower Mr. Coutts. Their marriage being without issue, Madar her favorite step grand-daughter, little Angelina Burdett, whom she made her heir, on condition that she should add the name Coutts to her own as a perpetual family name, for Harriet Mellon gratefully loved her generous, aged husband. On his death she married the oung Duke of St. Albans, thus becoming the es of St. Albans. Her will left Angelina Burdett Coutts the richest maiden in England, who lately was given the title of Baron-

ess by the Queen of England solely on a of her womanly virtues and beneficent de to those less favored by fortune than here The late Earl Shaftesbury was her co-labor

The Baroness, though an elderly lady, is one of the most charming, well bred gentle ne of the most charming, well bred gentle-omen in Europe, and is an honored guest at all European courts. Burdett-Courts, her h band, is many years ber junior. He is an lett, but he took the title Burdett Coutts in formity with the wishes of the Bar who thus carried out Harriet Mellon's desires of perpetuating the name. The Baroness was Henry Irving's first practical friend and patron. Her interest in the great tragedian brought before the London public this struggling provincial player, who else might never have been heard of in London or in America. A magnificent painting of Harriet Mellon, Duchess of St. Albans, and one of Henry Irving, are among the Baroness Burdett-Coutts' most

valued possessions.

The beautiful Nard Almayne, whose marriage to Nelson Decker deprived the stage of a gifted actress, owns a charming seaside residence a few hours from London by rail, at Hythe, in kent County. It is called "The Rest." and is situated on a hill sheltered by trees from the full view of passing tourists. "The Rest" is a bower of fruit and flowers. Mts. Decker, nee Nard Almayne, paints, sculps, photographs and entomologizes to her heart's content. Next to Harry Edwards she has the finest private collection of insects in the world. Her father, Professor Varley of cable fame, died not long since, leaving a comfortable addition to her already ample means, Mrs. Decker is liberally educated, and a fine general linguist. She is permanently located in England, and is noted as a d. lightful hostess to those literati who have the honor of her ac-

Anna Bulkley Hills, of St. Bartholomew's choir, New York, sang Guonod's "The Lord of Love my Shepherd Is" on the occasion of Henry Ward Beecher's first sermon in England. July 4, at Dr. Parker's church. Mrs. Hills is negotiating with H. Martin Van Lennep for several contralto songs to be especially written for her. She returns to New York in a few weeks. At about the same time Mr. Van Lennep visits America to arrrnge for the American sale of his newest London successes. Mr. Vannep is next year to be presented at Court, and, it is rumored, is to do some special musical work for the Court concerts at Buckingham

Atherton Furlong, whose art reception was such a success in New York, is at work on a rainting for a well known London actor. His last painting, a study of castle, is being success fully exhibited at a popular Bond street gallery. Mr. Furlong has much of the charm of the Rosa Bonheur school of art in his most beautiful pictures.

Major Edward Clench gave a "Haymaking party" last week at his residence in Bromley, Kent. Among the two or three hundred art, literary and society guests was seen Mrs. Helen Barry leaning on the arm of a well-known military officer. Miss Barry takes her London company to the provinces in a few weeks. VIDETTE.

Stage Types.

NO. XV .- THE OLD WOMAN.

Mrs Araminta Montmorency, nee Higgins, began life as a school teacher and was fairly successful in her vocation. She had the three R's at her fingers ends and the use of the globes was familiar to her soul. She might have gone on for life toiling in this useful but not wildly exciting profession but that on one eventful night she was taken to the theatre to see the great Charlotte Cushman play Lady Macbeth. Araminta was fascinated, enthralled. At last she had found her road in life. "Anche son Io pittore," she exclaimed, only she exclaimed in English, not Italian, and she substituted "actress" for "painter." She felt in her virgin bosom that artistic glow that warms those only who are born in the purple, who wear the starry diadem of intellect, not the iron crown of labor. No longer did she find it a delightful task to rear the tender root and teach the young idea how to shoot. In fact she didn't are a continental dime whether it shot or not, and, if it did shoot, whether it hit the mark.

The stage fever was on her. That strange disease that fastens its fangs on the very vitals with such persistent hold that not even Pasteur's treatment can save the patient from rabies. At first she assuaged her dramatic thirst by getting up an elocution class; then by organizing the performance of the milder plays by her pupils. But the thirst grew more intense; she craved for the fiery draught of public applause, and the water gruel of private performance paled upon her palate. At last she could resist no longer. She threw up her situation and repaired to New York with her savings, and the proceeds of a favorite reading, a Soireé d'Adieu she called it, which she perpetrated "By special request of the leading citizens of Pumpkinville in testimony of their appreciation of the talent of our esteemed fellow-townswoman." Arrived in the Metropolis, Araminta lost no time in putting herself under the tuition of a celebrated Entrepeneuse, an ancient dame who, having been a bad actress in her prime, considered herself admirably calculated to instruct others in the art in which she had failed. At the feet of this instructress Aramirta studied the round of legitimate

ng, of co sults off her mistress in a She was taught to walk, sit, lie, arise, of art, not nature; her arms were turn nay, even to the syllable; she "no everything that people do on the st never off it, and being "coached" in the approved fashion, she invested the rea her funds in "putting up" for a week's ring. A gentleman was found who for a tion took hold of the aspiring damsel and managed her debut. The papers pro cated a rising star. The house was duly pered" each night and the "floral tributes" par money into the pockets of the florists and took it out of the pockets of the debutante. The ushers and the deadheads applauded velomently, and the critics daily encouraged her to go on and prosper. And, indeed, Aram did not do badly in the school she was trained in; but, unfortunately for her, her early education had been scholastic and therefore pedantic. Her professional instincts had been artificial, not natural, and her acting, although formally correct, and following the established precedents, was stilted and teapotty, such as might have "taken the town" in the "palmy days of the drama," when all was art and none was nature; but, in our present age of rush and rattle, was voted slow and out of date. Offers of engagements did not flow in with the rapidity her manager had assured her would follow her debut; her money was all gone; she was no longer in her first youth, and had taken up the profession too late to serve the long apprenticeship that alone can lead to success, and Araminta was in despair. Her bright visions faded like the mist of morning, but the fever was not cured. She was only in the cold bit, and after vainly besieging the agents she grudgingly accepted an offer to play old woman on the road.

T

"Oh, what a fall was there, my countrymen!" from Juliet to Lady Capulet. But at least she had the satisfaction of having played Juliet. and during all her subsequent career she took especial pains to let everybody know that but for the bad taste of the public and the stupidity of managers, she would have been at the top of the tree still. Meanwhile by practice and the gradual forgetting of the rules of art she had been coached in, Miss Montmorency is really a very tolerable representative of Mrs. Willoughby, Lady Sneerwell, and the like, and may in time aspire even to Mother Frochard, when she will revel in the reminiscence of the time that she was the heroine of a week.

Letters to the Editor.

AMATRURS IN A PLICHT.

NEW ORLEANS, LA,. July 19, 1886.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., July 19, 1000.

Editor New York Mirror:

DEAR SIR:—I beg to call your a tention to a very inconvenient error which your correspondent unwatingly made in his account of the benefit tendered to Miss. Cole here a short time ago. One of us is accused of having been seized with a sudden attack of stage fright, thus necessitating the exclusion of Sullivan's operation of the programme. This is utterly untrue; we having been costumed and ready to go on when the wig-maker refused to let us do so until his pay was forthcoming from the management. This gentleman being appeased by the promise of one-half of the when the wig-maker refused to let us do so until his pay was forthcoming from the management. This gentle-man being appeased by the promise of one-half of the price agreed upon (the balance to be collected at some indefinite time), another obstacle arose in the form of a nuricians strike, Mr. Freuling, the accompaniet, refu-sing to play unless prepaid, and (unknown to us, who-were in the dreasing-room) it was falsely announced that one of us was ill.

Now it is not reasonable to imagine that, after tem-vears, more or less, of experience on the amsteur stars.

to our friends, who read your paper. I beg you will rec-tify the error. I would also call your attention to the ingratitude of the management, who, after soliciting our services, which we gave gratuitously, put us then in so-false a light before our friends and the nublic.

I am, yours resp'y. W. BLAKE.

A JOURNALIST'S EXPLANATION.

Editor New York Mirror:

DRAR SIR:—The article which you publish is last week's Mirror containing manifestly abourd statements made by Mr. Mansfield's agent would never have been print. di in its generally correct columns if you could have heard the other side of the story first. This would have been a courtesy I should have appreciated from NEW YORK, July 27, 1886. have been a courtesy I she he editor of THE MIRROR.

have beard the other more of the Meynote, or I have been a courtesy I should have appreciated from the editor of The Merror.

I am not the advertising a ent of the Keynote, or I should have known better than to have considered for a moment any of the propositions made to me by Mr. Mansfield's agent. I did not go after the contract to publish a page of illustrations for Prince Karl, but on the day the matter was spoken of dropped in to see Mr. Bonta at the Madison Square. In the course of our conversation the cut of Erminie, which we had recently published, was referred to, as was also one of Engaged, which Mr. Bonta had contracted for with the Keynote, and I asked Mr. Bonta if Prince Karl would not make a good illustrated page for the pager. Mr. Bonta said: 'I will introduce you to Mr. C." who on hearing of the details of the idea promptly offered seg for the page, an amount which would about cover the cost of the drawing and electrotype.

Bonta said: "I will introduce you to Mr. C." who eshearing of the details of the idea promptly offered a for the page, an amount which would about cover the cost of the drawing and electrotype.

Mr. C. a few minutes later said he would have to set Mr. Mansfield before be closed, and asked me to call it the morning, and subsequently submitted a number of

the morning, and subsequently submitted a number absurd propostions on a basis of taking a certain subser of copies, any one of which would have resulted a positive loss to the Keynote.

It appeared to me from Mr. C.'s creatic and unbunesalike manner that he really was not empowered make contracts, and I left him without reaching a conclusion.

make contracts, and t left nim
conclusion.

The next afternoon I called on Mr. Manufic whom I am slightly acquainted, and made the proposition. That was that the Prince Karl pe twenty-five doilars, the cost of the drawing both of which they should afterward own; the simply getting the benefit of the illustration. not look like sharp practice, does it? The sum ty dollars? was never mentioned in the transact proposition was afterward made to the publish Keynote by Mr. C. of so silly a nature communication was unanswered. Mr. Manufactory satisfied with the arrangement I



It seems very strange that clever men should be eternally cropping up on the stage and not one really remarkable woman. At the present time we have a multitude of musing actors, but please point me out one woman who has a sense of humor or notable comic ability in the same degree as Nat Goodwin, Francis Wilson, De Wolf Hopper, Roland Reed and a dozen or so others. There are a few old timers lingering on the boards who have passed as comediennes for many years; but for a stand-off to Goodwin, Wilson, Hopper and Reed, where is the young and clever comic woman? There are several women in the profession who are splendid fun off the stage, but never attempt anything like a laugh on it.

Clara Morris is a comic genius in private life: but she never had the least ambition to be funny on the stage.

Madeleine Lucette is one of the wittiest. most amusing little women in the world; but the sad, the plaintive and the sentimental take possession of her the minute she fronts the

And among the very young members of the ranks, whatever their qualifications for fun in private life, they are all clutching for unpleasant things on the stage. A heroine in rags, a tattered, weeping creature, battered by fate, is about the size they get measured for as soon as they can,

When Nelly Weathersby came to this country she saw so much fun in everything, she said so many droll things, that I thought very likely on the stage she'd make a very clever soubrette. Good mercy! she's gone in for the Ogaritas and the Henrietta orphans and Bess Marks, and there isn't a smile in her re-

The only girl I have seen lately who had beauty, style and fun in her, is a little creature who played in A Tin Soldier that small maid who was constantly coming on with messages from her mistress and impudent speeches of her own. How much of her cleverness was taught her by Hoyt, or how much of her ability was her own, I can't say on so short an acquaintance; but she is a lovely little girl to look at and possesses more accomplishments than any other new-comer I can call to mind.

For several seasons I was anxious to see this Miss Fuller who had been the subject of a multitude of paragraphs in the papers, There was tion that I thought her admirers might be more eloquent than numerous, and when the most ardent and ancient of them assured me she was not only the coming woman, but the one who had got here, and I would find she needed very little, I tried to find him after the performance and tell him a barrel of salt would be a good investment. Now, in the best possible spirit, let me tell Miss Loie Fuller how-if she happens to be a sensible girl-she can do some thing with her opportunities. The fatal gifts of grace and beauty are not yours, Miss Fuller, and therefore there is much more for you to do to win a place in your profession. You have a nice singing voice, but you are not a Patti, and when your own efforts make a bad break in a duet don't lose your temper and look at the unoffending party as if the whole chromatic scale had been insulted and the science of thorough bass unseated. Avoid senseless wiggles and those sudden gymnastics over the backs of chairs and the tops of ottomans, that betray not only an intense effort to be hoydinishly funny, but an utter inability to do so.

Because you have seen your name in little squibs throughout the press lately, be not inflated. Carefully investigate the road by which they got there, and be proportionately elated. Listen to your director, and carefully follow out instructions. You may know a great deal, but you have not lived long enough to know it all. You may be the most tractable, plastic person in the profession, but you bear, at every point you present to an audience just now, an announcement, as plain as a placard, of self-sufficiency and know-it-all-a- train.

an audience directly they see you. I don't know anything that is much thought of in a

Therefore accept suggestions; carry out, with such faithfulness as you can, the outlines given you of a part by the author, actor or manager

I take this much interest in the matter, be cause you are undoubtedly a clever girl, and have jumped into a series of opportunities quite phenomenal, and because I don't want to see you make a mess of Nat Goodwin's new piece while playing Jack Sheppard, with the methods you used in the play of Humbug.

I feel sorry Alice Harrison did not com into the cast. She is the ideal Jack. A crop wig and a gold laced red coat could be put on one of her photographs and made to play the part better than many of the later comers upon the stage.

But if I complain at the lack of ability among the young actresses of our stage, just wait for the blooming batch that is coming across from London. Miss Eastlake with Barrett; the Rosina Vokes party bring Maude Millet in Miss Chester's place, and Violet Cameron will be here as one star and Fortescue as another, It's a noble party.

(Lord Lonsdale comes over to pilot as well as pay for the Cameron folks, and Lord Londesborough is expressing much anxiety lest the similarity of their names get him mixed with the management)

In Eastlake, New York will see an amitation of Ellen Terry's appearance, without a particle of Ellen's genius. It's the lantern without the light. She is mild and don't wear corsets, and dresses like an Æsthete. She sticks out her chin and tangles her hair in a terrible manner, and there the imitation ends. Miss Millet will never replace that beautiful Miss Chester who shone in Rosina Vokes' ranks last season. She is neither a startling actress nor a pretty woman, and therefore Maude Millet won't be sung about like Maude Muller on her advent among us.

Violet Cameron is a handsome, statuesque woman. She knows it; she thinks about it all day, and she dreams how good-looking she is every night. You won't need to keep this fact set up; she'll do it for you. Every action denotes her knowledge of her attraction. I shall be wonderfully surprised if either she or Mr. Brough are liked in New York. I saw the gentleman in a burlesque on The Lady of Lyons, and thought he might be very good in legitimate comedy, as he was truly dreadful in extravaganza. I then saw him in Tony Lumpkin, and made up my mind that he must be excellent in tragic-emotional parts, as he was the hardest sawed out funny man I ever met. I haven't seen him yet in The Stranger or Hamlet, but stick to my belief that as he is great, he must be great in those things.

Arthur Roberts is a darling. He sings and vhistles and imitates, and is very funny; but believe he won't come with the troupe after

Miss Fortescue was in the D'Ovly Carte chorus of Iolanthe, and no one found out how elever she was nor how beautiful she is. I'm afraid that, though her case is more recent than the Tichborne affair, she will find trading on the notoriety of a cause celebre is no more profitable in her case than it proved in the poor Claimant's late lecture raid.

Well, bless 'em! let 'em come. "Uncle Sam has land enough to give us all a farm," sings where theylay their own eggs if theatrical busi-

In the meantime the Gusher gave some friends a wild night of it this week. A dear old gentleman from Connecticut, with his Hardshell Baptist wife and a Dissenting sister inlaw, was, in an evil moment, possessed to go see your valued and steady contributor. She liked it (?). They came in the morning and went to the Acqueduct shafts and over my High Bridge, and up the Incline Railway, and saw all the natural and unnatural beauties of the place. I extended all my hospitality. They got bitten by one or more of my dogs, and in the evening, in the solemn shadows, I discoursed cheerfully on hydrophobia and kindred topics. At ten, having lined themselves with ice-cream and lemonade, I told 'em a few refrigerating stories of spirits, while Pop talked with a man who had come from the city to see him on business. Gradually this stranger drifted into the conversation and the question of whether Brodie jumped off High Bridge early on the morning of Sunday week was discussed. I knew he hadn't, because nothing occurs in this place without my immediate supervision.

The attempt was voted suicidal, and as a pleasant contingent the different modes of suicide were discussed.

"Hanging," the stranger said, "was an easy, desirable, comfortable way of shuffling off." And then the old fellow shuffled to catch a

I went to look after their sleeping quarters, and very shortly we parted for the night. Sandpaper that unpleasant varnish off your In ten minutes a wild shriek rang through personality as soon as possible. It antagonizes the house. Pop sprang into the passage, crying that 'Mr. -, his friend, who had just gone, had committed suicide,' The genraw state but cucumbers and crude petroleum. tleman had a full beard of milk-white whisk-Certainly actresses require a great deal more ers. I had hurriedly rolled up a goat-skin finish than young women for domestic con- mat, furry side out; pulled one coat under

strap, buck'ed it into the coat; pulled some over the top of a half-closed door.

"He's hung himself-he's hung himself! Oh, the horrid sight," yelled the venerable gentleman. They poured up from the bar while the Gusher whipped round the plazze and dropped the dummy through the window and threw it into the garden, just as a group of travelling people pushed open the bedi

No hanged man met their eager gaze. Mr. - began to be startled from his attitude of

"I tell you it was there," he said, pointing to the door. "It was poor Mr. -... I saw his white hair."

"How many did you take at the bar wh you went to see the suicide off?" I asked.

This roused the ire of the woman, for Pa was a temperance man. It was a long time before tranquility was restoree. Pa and ma went to bed, and the Dissenting sister had the next room. I gave 'em one hour for composure, when I started the spirit business. I had hung a trunk key by a thread over the gas fixtures put the thread out the door attached to a pin stuck in the casing; then I took the longhandled duster, filled a glove with sand, sewed it up, tied it on the brush handle, and dipped it in a water pitcher.

This was the spirit-hand with a vengeance. perched on a table, I could lay the spirit hand on their slumbering faces by reaching through the transom; and by pulling on the thread I could tick, tick, tick, a sort of death watch on the chandelier in the adjoining room.

The clammy hand slapped the old man's cheek like a newly invented mosquito-smasher. Then it travelled across the old woman's pose and rested a moment, like a benediction, on her brow. Simultaneously three shrieks rang out, and all was confusion again. Table, dust brush, spirit-hand and Gusher disappeared by magic. Then that sympathetic soul went down the corridor and inquired with others what it all meant. It was convulsing to hear Ma and Pa describe the awful hand that had wakened them. The Gusher stood at the open door and faintly pulled the little thread. Tick, tick, went the mysterious noise. The Dissenting sister said she'd heard it all night. Weak and weary, broken quite up, Mr. - and his sister tourists turned up in the morning.

"Dear Miss Gusher, you will forgive us. We meant to visit you for certainly at least a week but after this dreadful night, really, I think we'll go right home," said the bedraggled family.

"I hate to part with you," warbled the Gusher.

"But we could never endure such an experi-

ence again." "It isn't likely to occur. They were mere allucinations produced by our exertion in

"No, no, no," chorused the gang; "it would kill us. Good-bye, good-bye. We don't see how you can live there. It's spirit work we're sure.

And so they faded from my gaze like a beau tiful dream, in three sections, and here I am o day a rejoicing GIDDY GU

Revival of Robert Macaire

sight-seeing.

Harold Forsberg, one of the best of ou eccentric comedians, nowadays called 'character actors," is about to try his fortunes in a revival of Robert Macaire. Mr. Forsberg's abilities are admirably suited to the delinea tion of the rogueries and eccentricities of this prince of rascals. Yesterday a MIRROR reporter had a conversation with W. A. Teegarden, Mr. Forsberg's manager.

"We will get together a strong company for the production," said Mr. Teegarden. "An especial feature will be the fête champêtre, in which there will be dancing. Signor Operti is arranging the incidental and dance music. My faith in Mr. Forsberg's success is unbounded. By the way, we will use Charles Fechter's version of the play. We are succeeding very nicely in our bookings, most of the time being filled in week-stands. Among the principals engaged are Inez Rochelle and W. P. Sheldon."

Professional Doings.

-James H. Wallick will open August 20, at Red Bank, N. J., with The Bandit King. -Joseph Daniels, manager of Wilson an Rankin's Minstrels, is in the city on a visit. -Dickie Martinez has been engaged by

Hoyt and Thomas for the Rag Ba -Walter Hudson has booked twenty weeks for Edmund K. Collier in Metamora and Jack

-Ada Gray opens her season in A Ring of Iron on August 30, at Ford's Opera House,

-The Eden Musee does not perceptibly help business at the California Theatre, San

—Louis James' company will meet for re-hearsals at McVicker's Theatre, Chicago, on Monday, August 16. -- C. W. Vance, stage manager of the Gladia

tor company, has arrived in town and is get-ting ready for rehearsals. -H. S. Taylor has been appointed sole sumption, and a hoydenish, frolicsome character needs as artistic handling as Lady Macbeth. like; buttoned the coat round the met; put

-County Fair dates at Ga

—Robert Buchanan's play Sophia is the property of Lester Wallack. He warms man-agers and others against infringements.

—Branch O'Brien, the "Ghost" of the De ver Tribune, has been engaged by George June as the avant courier of Viola Allen.

-William Eversole, for several sea

—H. B. Clarke, manager of the Acades fusic, Halifax, N. S., has received the p age of many friends on the Square this

—P. S. Mattox has returned from the West and is now located at Taylor's Exchange, com-pleting preparations for the tour of Lillian Lewis. -Kate Castleton is at the Alcazar T

San Francisco, for the present fortnight. Si had a large house to greet Crazy Patch o Monday night. Charley Reed was in the su

— Manager James Fennessy, of the firm of Hubert Heuck and Co., Cincinnati, will prob-ably lease the People's Theatre in that city to Sigmund Gabriel, late of the Vine Street Opera House.

—Paul R. Albert is the manager of New Opera House at Chattanooga, To Forty leading citizens are the stockhold The Bijou Opera company opens the house

-Having secured William Muldoon for the combat scene in The Gladiator, R. L. Downing has taken the athlete down to his farm in Vir-ginia, there to indulge in short-sword prac-

—Manager James E. Fennessy, of the firm of Hubert Henck and Co., Cincinnats, will probably lease the People's Theatre in that city to Sigmund Gabriel, late of the Vine Street Opera House.

—James Collins, business manager Coney Island of the West Excursion pany, is negotiating with the owner Vine Street Opera House in Cincinnati lease of that resort.

-F. E. Davis has been engaged as a manager of the Hungarian Gypsy 5 Mr. Davis has been the energetic awar mr. Davis has been the energetic awar mr. Davis has been the unical organ

—Isaac Bloom, the well-known theatrical costumer, of 124 Fifth avenue, sailed for Europe on Wednesday by the steamer Eider. He will visit London and Paris in search of the latest novelties for the Fall and Winter

The private car in which Adelaide Motravels this season will bear her name. It said to be the most elaborate car ever built is from the workshops of the Mann Bedoir Car Company, and will be delivered

Oct I.

—Henry Chanfrau goes under new magement. A. B. Anderson has taken chrof his interests. Mr. Anderson would libert managers who have booked hear from managers who have t

season. He is spending the summer months at the Inebriate Home at Eighty-sixth street and Madison avenue, that managers who already appreciate his acting may have renewed con-fidence in him -Hal Clarendon has not yet sign

—Greene's Opera House, at Cedar Rapids, lowa, was last week slightly damaged by fire. The injury has been repaired and the interior is now more hardsome than ever. The open-ing of the regular season will take place on the set date, August 2.

—The next season of Michael Strogoff us the management of Charles L. Andrews op in Chicago on August 30. Mr. Andrews writes that he has entirely new scenery, will carry along sixteen handsome y for the minuet carnival,

—Workmen have been busy for over a week past at the front of the Bijou Opera House, and the result is that that structure is taking on a much more presentable appearance. In fact, its exterior now compares favorably with any theatre in the city.

-H. J. Sargent has estable The Adelaide Moore Aerial I "The Adelaide Moore Aerial Express," conssists of forty carrier pigeons that off at the Union Square Hotel every We day and Saturday afternoons, conveying sages to him at his home in Plainfield, h

Randall's Theatrical Bureau is arrang route for the Angelo Grand Italian Opompany, of which Mile. Valda will be brima donna. The company will complout one hundred people. It will be seen -that is, two

-Monday, August 16, will be a b for the critics, as it will be the occa three openings in the city: The Maid Moonshiner at the Standard Theatre, the Enemy at the Madison Square,

-The Star Theatre has been offered Allen in which to make her debut in New York in W. C. Cowper's play, Talked About, although it has not yet been accepted. Miss Allen will be Boston's only lady representative starring in the legitimate field of the drama next season.

-James Owen O'Connor is ma tions to star in an extended repertoire, icluding Hamlet, Merchant of Venice, Richlieu, Othello, Lady of Lyons, Marble Heaetc. Mr. O'Connor is rapidly filling his tirand feels confident of more than repeating it

-Most of the new theatres ap throughout the country are supplied with Sosman and Landis' scenery. This firm seems to be getting a monopoly of the new houses. They make scenery for travelling companies a specialty. Managers visiting pecially invited to inspect their

OVINCIAL.

on Nanta

CHICAGO.

CHICAGO.

The Penman, the comedy-drama by Sir Charles and produced for the first time ir America by lison Square Theatre co, at McVicter's, lest roved to be the most popular play of the brief and large andiences were the rule at every perce. The story is that of a seemingly highly read with the second of the second of the second of a second

atie.

John Ratagan, who has been connected with the Grand Opera House and the Chicago Opera House, and has been popular with all the patrons of both houses, intends to start in treastrical management on his own account soon. He has taken the management of Con T. Murphy, the Irish comedian, who will appear in his own drama Loch-an-Mar. Murphy is the author of numerous Irish songs, which he will sing in the piay. Everybody wishes John and Con the best ruccoss.

Trank E. Alken, the popular actor and old-time Chicago manager, will open the Academy of Music on August 16, in his own drama Against the Stream.

PHILADELPHIA.

A few evenings ago I met the veteran actor George H. Grifiths, who informed me he expected to eign with Robson and Cranse for the coming season, hie is leading somewhat thin, and a long white beard auggests his up; but his general appearance indicates health and viger. In the course of conversation he gave me the following personal chapter: "I was born in London on the eath of April, 182s, and made my first appearance on the stage in the same city in 1846. I came to this country in 1840, and went to Lockport, New York, arriving these with atxence in my pocket. I remained there until the following year, when I worked my way on a canal-boat to Rochester, and on my arrival there made the sad discovery that my last dollar was a counterfeit. During that year I made my American debut at Buffalo, phying De Maupeat for \$1s a week. In the next year was a suggest in New York at the Bowery Theatre was a Them Hambills. Here I was stage-manager, ald the heavy part in Damon and Pythian and played tow consedy in Mr. and Mrs. Peter White. I was lessed of the Old Drury at Sixth and Chestaut Street; Pheare, Philadelphia, then under the management of Gemmill. Scott and Co., and made my first appearance there as a member of the stock co.at the Chestaut Street Theatre, Philadelphia, then under the management of Gemmill. Scott and Co., and made my first appearance there as Terky Middlewyck in Our Boys. This eagagement lasted four years, and during that time I conducted a musical academy, principally for instruction upon the plane and organ. This school was very successful, and was obliged to move into larger quarters to accommodate the eager crowd of pupils. I had at one time in this establishment over forty planes and evoted my time to that establishment over forty planes and evoted my time to that establishment over forty planes and evoted my time to that establishment over forty planes and evoted my time to the establishment over forty planes and evoted my time to the establishment over forty planes and evoted my t

he showed me a letter from a prominent star an engagement for next season, but for is own he was obliged to decline. ment list here continues very meagre, but form seem to be doing good business and the ten aco, centinues to hold the Arch Street

er in an alleged interview with Jules Levy ay that he desires to organize a military desired doubt it in the least, but have heard desire in the breast of the dear public. I was waiting along the tow path on the shapitill the other day, at a point fully the Belmont, where Levy was playing, here his cornet. His music sounded the distance, and I find he loses none of

clistance, and I find he loses none of solar off.

Theatre will open August as of Robertson's play of Curs, under ore Holland, who will secure the Levry scene for the play will be ensuil not be counted. Mr. Holland is rthis city, and informs me that when

SAN FRANCISCO.

Illness prevented my attendance at any of the openngs last night, but from the critics I lears that that of
the California Theatre was the most notable and largely
stractive. It was a triple event, being, first, the proluction of The Last Days of Pompei; second, an introduction to our people of the Pacific Coast branch of the
New York Eden Musee; third, the debut of Adelaide
Emerson as lone. This is the distribution of characters:

stationice, a female gladiator, wife to Burbo dealing and somewhat constituent part that was for her merited praise. Mr. Science affects to fully grasp the possibilities of Raim's character, and waile up to the mark in the reactive scenes, was dill and commonp'ace in the lear but equally important ones. Mr. Kelcey was collect in the little has do do. That the play will we a success in New York there is little doubt. It is also all the elements of the old-time Union Square on, and presented by one of the most admirable constituents in sure to please theatre-goers who delight the to nere combination of a good play well acted see. In the Saman and the Collection of the Col

more important feature of the California, the stage or its wax collection.

After the fast-thronging crowd had satisfied itself with this latest novelty—the only complaint made being that the ceroplastics were so few in number—the people swarmed upstairs, where the curtain was about to ring up on Median's time-honored spectacle of The Last Days of Pompeli, produced at the old Bowery on Feb. Q. 1825, more than fifty years ago, and where it ran with tremendous success for over two months. It may be interesting to know the principal members of the cast of the first production of this old-timer: Thomas S. Hamblin played Arbaces; David Ingersoil, Lydon; Charles R. Thorne. (at present in this city), Glaucus; Mr. Pickering, Apacides; Mrs. Flynn, Nydia; Mrs. Charles R. Thorne. Lose; Mrs. Stevensen, Startonice; Mrs. McClure, the Saga of Venuvius. Miss Median's adaptation is the only one that has been made of Bulwer's splendid novel, and judging by the performance last evening, it would seem to screly need retouching in places. The text gives occasion for large and magniloquent reading, of course, and in its delivery Harkins as Lydon, the gladiator, Frank Moradunut as Arbaces, the priest. Theedore Roberts as Apacidea, lone's brother, E. N. Thayer as Calenus, J. J. Wallace as Medon, were in their element. Mabel Bert played Nydia, the blind girl of Thessaly, with seculiarly subjective and pathetic effect. The principal feature of interest on this occasion was the debut of Adalaide Emerson, a young lady from Oakland, who assumed the part of lone, in love with Glaucus (Joseph Holland). The lady showed the usual timidity and incertitude of a novice, but her reading was good, and her action, if somewhat restrained, graceful. There is no reason, physical or other, why ahe should not win a good place for herself in the profession. At the close of the first act, Manager Rankin was called before the curtain, and made a little aspect of thanks, acknowledging his obligations to Mr. Chadbourne, decorator; Mr. Henderson, the electrici

personated by Owen ompton, Kate Denin ttel an I Trella Foiz. There was a ce, and the play will doubtless be dvantage this evening. To-morrow I appear in Camille, in which she

Mme. Modjeska will appear in Camille, in which she achieved a great London success."

The Krelling Brothers, with their accustomed enterprise, treat their Friscan patrons to the latest New York success upon which subject the Alta columns contain the following: "Audran's new and popular opera. The Golden Hen, was presented for the first time in this city, at the Tivoli Opera House, last night. For a first performance it went smoothly, and the leading singers received several recalls. The contumings were rich, the orchestra rendered the music in good style, and The Golden Hen may safely be included among the Tivoli's long list of operatic successes. Last night's performance was for the benefit of the Retail Clerks' Association, and the Tivoli was filled to the limit of its capacity."

apacity."

Belle Moore made her Friscan bow last night at the
lush Street Theatre, presenting A Mountain Pink
rith the following cast: th the following cast: Sincerity Weeks, a Mountain Pink, with songs

an excellent record, and a long list of friends to welcome her when she comes again.

Modjeska held an informal recoption on the Baldwin stage after Monday night's performance, and upwards of a hundred society people called upon her.

Joseph Grismer and Phoebe Davies at the conclusion of their engagement at the Grand Opera House begin their fourth annual tour of the Pacific Slope. Mr. Grismer, who has just returned from the East, has purchased the right for this coast of several of the latest successes, and will be supported by a most powerful co. Messrs. Emmett and Branscombe, two young English actors, recently arrived, have contracted with Manager Hayman to appear at the Baldwin.

John T. Raymond plays in Oakland on Monday and Tuesday 'evenings, presenting The Magistrate and For Congress.

Joseph Levy, whose health has been quite recovered by a short sojourn in this city, leaves to-morrow to rejoin Lawrence Barrett in New York.

S. B. Whitely gave his second popular organ concert at the Metropolitan Temple yester, sy afternoon to a pleased audience. The vocalists were Alice Dyer, soprano, and E. P. Alexine, tenor.

Preceding Margaret Mather's engagement at the Bush Street. August a, Manager Hill intends to thoroughly renovate and refurnish that theatre.

Next Monday, 26th, bonny Kate Castleton will meet several hundred of her admirers at the Alcasar.

Here is an item from the Alla: "The last performance of A hunch of Keys. at the Bush Street Theatre, is represented as exasperatingly bad, the co. loafing through their parts as if they owed the audience a grudge and wanted to pay it on the farewell night. This is never good policy, and 'conducts like those' are liable to be resented on the first opportunity."

Herr Frederich Mitterwurzer, pronounced one of the greatest of German speaking actors, arrived in this city on Thursday last. He will open a season at the Baldwin on the evening of the syth.

The first performance in America of The Marble Heart was given at the Metropolitan Theate of their represented of

Volage; George Rver, Alcibiades and J. H. McCabe, Strayton.

The Sacramento Bee of July 13 contains a column and a half devoted to the new Metropolitan Theatre of that city, which, it says, thas rises, phoesis like, from the ashes of the pant, and is the neatest, prettest and most comfortable temple of Theapis on the Pacific Coast. The property in owned by Mrs. Fey, sister of the late Sophie Kdwin, in her day one of the most accomplished actresses on the California state. The Bee pays a high compliment to Colonel A. M. Gray, the architect, under whose direction and supervision the theatre was reconstructed, and also to William T. Porter, so long the scenic artist of the California, in this city, who has just finished eighteen set pieces for the new Metropolitan. His drop curtain is described as a work of art never before approached in any theatre in this State. Between Mesers. Gray and Porter a first-class place of amusement has been completed, of which the Sacramentans are more than proud.

Paul Juignet, who for a year or two past has organized in this city cocasional theatrical entertainments in French, by means of amateurs, has decided to try his fortunes on the English-speaking stage, in characters where the viral ambiance of the situation is heightened by a slight French accent. His first essay will probably be made in flouticult's Grimaldicer. The Life of an

South at the approach of Summer. It raving seem circulated that he would not go North this year, Mr. Bidwell said:

"I am sorry to say I am compelled to go to New York on business. I am preparing for the journey. I have to go to close up my season. Thus far I have been very successful in filling up my dates with good strong attractions, many of whom have never been South. The Academy of Music will open Sept. 19, and I have already filled up twenty-four weeks. The St. Charles will open Oct. 24, and nearly the entire season is filled. The Grand is about half filled and the remainder of the time I am holding open for a better class of attractions. I have more time already booked than I have had for ten years in the same length of time. I would give you a list of the attractions already booked, but I prefer to wait ustil the entire season is filled up. I can safely promise the public that the season of 1886-87 will be filled with the best possible attractions that I can secure, many of which have never been Scuth.

Mr. Bidwell is very much pleased with Pass Christian, and expresses himself in the following terms. "A better place does not exist in the North as a Summer resort."

The Shakespeare Club's reputation is on the wane. Durit g the last two months several entertainments have been given under its auspices that barely paid expenses. There was Marie Prescott's lecture. The club had requested her to give it, and promised to attend in a body; but when the evening came they were absent.

Prudence Cole's benefit was another instance where they failed to appear after having promised.

Mme. Nogueiras, wife of the Portuguese Minister, sailed for Italy on the 24th. She will appear on the operatic stage while there.

ST. LOUIS.

operatic stage while there.

ST. LOUIS.

Uhrig's Cave was crowded during the week by as large and as fashionable an audience as ever oassed the turnstile. To say that Managers Pat Short and Thompson were happy barely expresses their exuberance of spirits. Olivette was taken from the shelf and the cobwebs brushed off, after which it was produced, and it was demonstrated that with a good co. and accessories even an old opera will renew its attractiveness. Dora Wiley, who took the place left vacant by Catherine Lewis breaking her contract, met with a hearty reception. She has a good voice and of fair compass. Her rendering of the Sob song was vociferously applauded, whilst the encore, "Home Sweet Home," affected the audience as only that melody can, was enthusiastically received. Richard Golden's Coquilicot was amusing; in fact he prolonged the opera oy his witticisms and so ies, and he had to acknowledee that there was no more verses to his painfully affecting ballad on the "Peach of Emerald Hue." George Olmi as Captain DeMerimac used his fine baritone voice to great advantage. Harry Nelson as Valentine and riarry Standish as Disk Delifs aang their roles satisfactorily. Hattie Starr and Any Harvey alternated as the countess, and each having her own admirers, of course received a gner us share of the applause. Flossie White (who has rejoned the cr.) and Blanche Nicolos acquitted themselves with great credit. The Mikado will be revived this week, with new, costumes purchased by Mr. Thompson in Chicago on his recent visit to that city. Miss Kindall, a local favorite, known in private life as Mrs. Dudley Buck, will essay the part of Katisha. Mr. Thompson has had the co, photographed by Cramer of the scity. He will frame the photos and use that style of advert sing next season.

The old Apollo Theatre has been repainted and opened as Henderson's Theatre by a party of the same name. The bill for last week was Hidden Hand. The prices are the so-called popular, and the place will probably pay. The co. is only fair. Eugen

gramme.

John W. Norton left Thursday for the East. Jean
Delmar, late prima donna at the Park, has gone to her
home in Indianapolis.

CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI.

The MacCollin Opera co. at the Highland House is doing only fairly, the weather being just at this date sufficiently torrid to "knock out" the most phenomenal amusement-goer. The Merry War constituted the programme last week, and will probably continue the attraction until August 1. Montgomery Phister, of the Commercial-Gazette, whose political cartoons are one of the most interesting features of that journal, is busily at work on another comedy.

Smiley Walker is doing good service in behalf of the Zoological Gardens.

It is now announced as a fact that Lennie Miles, son of R. E. J., will officiate in the box-office of the Grand, vice Daniel Webster Clifton.

It is not improbable that Sigmund Gabriel, late of the Vine Street Opera House, will assume the management of the People's, as the owner of the Vine Street Opera House, and the rest of the rentals to be derived from that resort which do not at all conform to the former manager's impression. Gabriel has already opened negotiations with Manager Fennessy toward securing the People's, with every prospect of satisfactory arrangements being consummated, and, in the event of the deal, Jim Collins, of the Coney Island of the West, will probably take hold of the Vine Street Opera House. Cincinnati will then be blessed with two straight variety theatres, and "the war will be carried into Africa."

The local managers all express considerable uneasiness over the threatened attack to be continued by the case of the coney is an accessful career for his Caught in a Corner, which will be produced by M. B. Curtis.

Professor Adam Weber, leader of the orchestra at Heuck's, is giving some interesting concerts at Wielert's Garden.

Will Fennessy is reported as enjoving himself hugely at Mt. Clemens, Mich.

The benefit tendered Emerson, of Emerson and Clarke, under Nat Homer's direction, at the Grand, will be given just.

INDIANAPOLIS.

A break has been made in the monotony of Summer dullness. Manager Dickson, of the Grand, astoniahen and pleased his patrons with a run of minstrelsy. The Wilson and Rankin co. was secured for the ssd, and the house was well filled. Programme same as before presented here and needs no comment. Some of the specialty partz were well given and others were weak. George Wilson, alwaysa favorite, was a friend of everybody in the house. A new programme will be arranged for neat season. Following them 504 and 24th, the Haverly American and European Minstrels were secured. Opening night, big house; second night, only fair. Warm weather prevented fuller attendance.

It would seem from the programme that the Gorman have more to do with the show than any one else. The prediction it made that "Gormans United Minstrels" is a thing of he near future. They are hard workers and deserve auccess. Hallad enging in first part very good. Tvained dags in a black-face show were a novelty. Afterpiace, the Ci-gar-do, is rather obso ets. The Misado and its buriesques have fallen into disuss. From here co, goes to Chicage for a three weeks' stay, during which a few changes in co. and entire programme will be made.

The Museum rolls on forever. Week of 26th, Charles A. Gardeney's Krist of the state of the contraction of the contract

which a few changes in to be made.

The Museum rolls on forever. Week of a6th, Charles A. Gardner's Karl co. is announced. It is yet undecided what will be the future of Sackett's Museum. The present location can not by any chance be his for another season. If he is making arrangements for another property it is all done by correspondence.

IERSEY CITY.

tention to take part. After the performance there will be a hop. Mr. Crocheim deserves great credit for the public spirit he evinces by this act of generosity in assuming the whole expense of the testimonial. Mr. Macready, the efficient stage-manager at Cronheim's, informs me that he has several good attractions booked. I hose immediately following are: Week of August o, Gilday and Beane's Collars and Cuffs, and Ed Crissie; week of 16th, Arthur Sprague in Jesse James; week of 25th, Lottle Church in Unknown. Macis a hustler and quite popular.
Charles E. Bull, late of the Windsor Theatre, New York, has been engaged as scenic artist at Cronheim's, and is going to astonish the Hobokenites with some fine work.

and is going to assensian the Hobokenites with some finework.

Wareing's new theatre has the roof on and will be rapidly completed.

William Rightmire, in speaking of his last season, said that The Mighty Million; or, The Knights of Labor, which he had counted so much on, "panned out" badly. After cuiling all the apostrophes and fine points from the speeches of prominent members of the Order and incorporating them in his play; joining them together for one grand effort, and preparing the co. for the expected enthusiasm, the piece was produced at Amsterdam and ran one consecutive night. He did not have the nerve to repeat it. Those that were awake went home before the play was half over.

MILWAUKEE

MILWAUKEE.

This week of the 19th will long be remembered as the liveliest we have had since the Grand Army reunion. Early in the week the singers began to arrive, and on Wednesday the different reception committees in slik hats and badges, with bands of music, were kept busy marching to and fro from the depots, receiving the visiting societies and escorting them to their resting-places. Each visiting society was accompanied by a band of music, consequently there was not a moment when the enlivening strains of music were not heard, Many of the societies marked their individuality by the form and color of their hats, by umbrelles, or by even dusters. All the business and many of the private hsuses are covered with flags, bunting and evergreens, and our city presents a very attractive appearance. The opening concert on the sist introduced Misses Lehman and Brandt and Mesars. Joseph Von Witt and Joseph Standigl as the solouts, and Mozarf's Requiem as the principal number. A very large audience was in attendance and the applause was hearty and prolonged. Miss Lehman has appeared here before, and made many friends. She has a very powerful, well trained voice and commanding presence. Miss Brandt's full, rich contralto served to fill the vast auditorium better than one would imagine. We were sadiy disappointed in Von Witt and Standigl, and fail to see the necessity of sending to Europe for them. On the syd the prize cantata, Columbus, was produced. This as considered the principal event of the Saenger-fest, and the large building was crowded to its utmost capacity. The cantata, which was rendered by Mesers. Von Witt, Panert, Standigl and Benedict, assisted by the mass male chorus, was an immense success, and congratulations were telegraphed Herr Brambach. Carrie Goldsticker, Max Heinrich, Rafael Joseffy and S. E. Jacobsohn, the violinist, added much to the success of the concerts. On the syth the children's manines was given, under the direction of W. L. Tomlius. The concerts closed in the evening by the singing of "T

outside of the Saengerfest which can boast of big business.

Wilson and Rankin's Minatrels gave two performances at the Grand on the 18th to good business.

The local theatres have had considerable trouble in getting orchestras, owing to all the local musicianabeing engaged at the Saengerfest.

Manager Gardiner, of the Zozo, solved the question of aucommodation by renting a furnished house and going to housekeeping.

The Mand of Belleville boys defeated the press gang at base ball 5 to 7, and the Zozo boys 13 to 4.

Henry J. Maginn, formerly with the Emma Abbett co., will be the new Treasurer at the Academy in place of John Hogarty, who goes with Lights o' London.

Manager Litt goes east to complete arrangements for his Lights o' London tour.

All the theatres will be closed until August 30.

LOUISVILLE.

LOUISVILLE.

Eugene Jepson, in his new play, The Tide of Fortune, drew a very good week's business at the Museum. The play bears a sufficiently close resemblance to Dan Sully a Corner Grocery to betray its source of inspiration. A really good co. interpreted the several parts, and enjoyable performances were the result. Additing was especially good as Mrs. Moosey, while lepson as Alonzo was satisfying in every way except that he played a part similar to Baddy Rolan without an attempt at broque or dialect. The action was rapid, the stage business natural and the setting realistic and effective. Proved True, softh.

The Grand Central is closed, leaving the Museum the only theatrical place of amusement now open to the public.

Henry Pain, of The Last Days of Pompeli, arrived early in the week and preparations are rapidly making for the early presentation of the spectacle.

W. B. Murray, doorheeper and advertising agent for the value of the presentation of the spectacle.

Professor Henry Freet, a planist of acknowledged merit, who has traveled with the Clara Louise Kellogia and others of the best concert companies, recently sarried a most estimable lady of this city. He proposes to take up his abode in Boston, where he has flattering prospects as a teacher of music. He is a young man, a student and an enthusiast.

Mrs. Rachel Macanley is quietly spending the Summar here at the home of her mother. Mrs. Macauley will probably return to the stage, as her means are limited and she is in love with her vocation.

Work is rapidly progressing on the new Grand Theatre, and there is every indication that it will be ready for the opening in Sestember. Manager James Whallen is giving the work his personal attention. The

aruals are now in progress.

ger of the Erie (Pa.) Park Opera
pending the Summer with his family
s engaged Will Compton as Treas.
n officiated as assistant treasurer of
sa, and proved himself to be of the

House, has been spending the Summer with his family in Detroit. He has engaged Will Compton as Treasugar. Mr. Compton officiated as assistant treasurer of White's last sesson, and proved himself to be of the right material.

A new play has been written by Fred Gibbs, of this city, called Monopoly, and is reported as sold to J. L. Ashton, the actor. It will have its first send-off in the Detroit Opera House August 6, 17, 18 and 19, under the auspices of this District Assembly of the K. of L. Mr. Ashton promises a first-class cast in its production, and thinks he has a bonanza. I sincerely hope he has, as John is a deserving fellow and a hard-working man. The Emma Abbott Opera co. has secured a good soprano for the coming season in the person of Kate Maddock, of this city. Miss Maddock has been the leading soprano of St. Peter's Episcopal Church for several years, and is fully capable of entering the profession. She left Saturday evening to join the co. for rehaerasls. Before leaving, the vestry and rector of the church and her friends presented her with an elegant pair of opera-glasses, and a united expression of their good will and "God bless you" followed her.

The Cyclorama of the Battle of Gettysburg, which has had a good run at the Princess Theatre, will close August 2. There is nothing reported as to what will be the disposition of the puemies.

George H. Primross, of the T. P. W. Minstrels, has been in town the past week, and left to join the co. rehearsing at Cleveland. This popular organization will brgin its season in that city and will show up in Detroit, August 2.

M. T. Skiff and his lovely bride have returned from their honeymoon, and are now enjoying themselves with relative on the Canadian shore of the Detroit River, opposite this city. Mrs. Skiff is a refined and amiable lady, and Mr. T. is a fortunate man in securing so pleasant a companion of his joys and sorrows. Mr. Skiff informs me he will pilot Robert Mantell.

Gus Williams, one of the finest, is enjoying himself as much as he has any seas

COLUMBUS.

The Hardie-Von Leer comb. in A Brave Woman, at the Grand the past week, made a big hit and the house was crowded at every performance. The co, is a strong one and evenly balanced, and every one in the cast is worthy of praise. They fully deserved the fine business they played to, as it was one of the best attractions of the

was crowded at every performance. The co, is a strong one and evenly balanced, and every one in the cast is worthy of praise. They fully deserved the fine business they played to, as it was one of the best attractions of the season.

The benefit to Harry Whitney and the Grand Opera House Orchestra, 30th, is certain to be a big success, as a great number of tickets have already been sold. Among the volunteers are the United States Garrison Band, McGwine, McDonald and Taylor, Harry Blaney and George Backus. An original farce, by Harry Whitney, in which Will Jackson will play the principal part, will be put on for an afterpiece.

Fitz Rankin, in advance of Wilson and Rankin's Minstrels, spent Tuesday at this his old home. He is enthusiastic about prospects for business next season, and sava they have five poeple—the Polusik Brothers' and the Paraellas, that will arrive from England this week—that are certain to be the greatest cards in the minstrel business. Thomas Lewis has been made a good offer to join the party, and will probably go with them for a short time at least.

George Backus is home again from New York. He has had a number of good offers, among them three from leading stock cos. He has not signed as yet, but will probably accept one of the stock engagements.

Joseph Miller of Louisville and C. C. Harrison of Zanesville were among the old landmarks that showed up last week.

The Glowing from the Cincinnati Enquirer will probably be copietely overhauled. New plastering and decorations and new seats for the parquet will constitute the chief improvements at the "Mext." The house will probably be ready before the specified time.

The Glowing from the Cincinnati Enquirer will probably be of interest to readers of Tau Misrosi. "We were permitted yesterday to see the new drop-curtain for the Metropolitan Opera House, Columbus, Obio, which is receiving its finishing touches from the masterly brush of Edward T. Harvey, the distinguished socaic artist, who has been steadily at work upon it in studied to the Moor

the seasons and then research is the seasons and the listic work.

The Battle and Siege of Vicksburg opened at the Baseball Park, Sunday, agth. It is extensively advertised and is favorably spoken of by the press. The Veteran Zouaves of New Iersey, en route to the G. A. R. En campment, were in attendance Sunday and took part is campment, were in attendance Sunday and took p the battle. The Brambilla Concert co. opened an engage this week at Music Hall.

CALIFORNIA.

LOS ANGELES.
Grand Opera House (McLain and Lehman, managers):
Bella Moore appeared in Mountain Pink 13th and 14th
to good audinces. All appeared to be satisfied. Carrie
Swain will appear week of soth. Mme. Modjeska week
August s. Baird's Minstrels 1sth, 13th and 14th.

August 2. Baird's Minstrels 12th, 13th and 14th.

SAN BERNARDINO.

Opera House (Waters and Brinkmeyer, managers):
There is no theatrical news to chronicle, and in place of
this I wish to give some items concerning this city,
which may be of interest to Eastern managers.

We have here one of the finest opera houses on the
Coast. The seating capacity is 800, and in point of finish, scenery, fittings, etc., is equal to any, those of
'Frisco not excepted.

The city contains 5,000 inhabitan's, is the first place
of cons quence reached vis the A. and P. R. R. or S.
P. R. R. after leaving Albuquerque, and is just the
point to rest and recruit before arriving at Los Angeles.

Managers with good attractions can always be sure of
paying business.

CONNECTICUT.

BRIDGEPORT.

Wagner's New Theatre (H. H. Jennings, manager):
Week of 10th, George Murphy in Rudolph's Ambition.
The star came with the reputation of being the best
German dialect artist in the country, and his work gave
good satisfaction. Good houses. First night but three
members of co. were to be found. The rest failed to
show up. It is said that Mr. Murphy could not be
found when the co. met to start, and the rest would not
come without him. All were on deck the second night,
and gave a good performance.

MYSTIC.

MYSTIC.
Robbins' Circus was with us 19th and gave a good ring performance. Owing to the railroad accident at Putnam destroying several of the cages and wagons, including the band wazon, the street parade was not what it otherwise would have been. Mr. Robbins intends to sue the railroad co. for damages, and regards a verdict in his favor as certain, as he can prove that the accident was not caused by any defect in his cars. The cars were examined at Worcester and accepted by the railroad co. The co. travel in first-class style, having comfortable sleepers and living well, as your correspondent can testify from personal observation. MYSTIC.

DANBURY.

Opera House (J. S. Taylor, proprietor): Crocker's troupe of educated horses did a fair business last week; pic-nics, free concerts, etc., diminishing what would have been otherwise good houses. The bornes show evidence of careful training, and the show is deserving of good luck. Item: J. C. Harvey is spending a few days at his pa-ternal home.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON.

The Crowing Hen drew tolerably good houses last week at the National, but no better, I think, than The Black Hussar would have done, and there is no comparison between the operas, or the cos. either. Falka opened Monday night to good house in spite of heavy rain. This is the last week of the co. and nothing further is announced. A breathing spell before the opening of the regular season would be a good thing for everyone concerned.

ing of the regular season would be a good thing for everyone concerned.

At Albaugh's Maritana did not draw any large numbers last week. Neither will Martha be apt to this week, even with the additron of Signor Montegrife and Carrie Moore. Next week, The Bohemian Girl.

Marguerite E. Saxton went to New York last week, seeking a professional engagement. She would be a valuable addition to any co. playing a round of Shakespearean plays, as she has been for several years a close student of the Bard's works, and has appeared to good advantage as Queen Catherine, Lady Macbeth and Hermione. Miss Saxton was a pupil of the late Philip Lawrence.

GEORGIA.

GEORGIA.

SAVANNAH.

Savannah Theatre (T. F. Johnson, manager): Pink Dominos drew satisfactory audiences 22d and 33d. Several seasons ago one of John T. Ford's cos. produced this play, with Marie Bockell, Belle Mackenzie, Blanche Chapman and George Denham in the principal roles. Our Fords are named after the veteran John T., and while young in experience, they presented this comedy in a very acceptable manner.

Coons: Same enterprising manager should secure three little coons in this city, who in themselves would prove an immens: drawing card for any variety co, 'hey are not over ten or twelve years old, and play the harmonica to perfection while doing the song-and-dance act in the regular plantation style.

ILLINOIS.

SHELBYVILLE.

Parker's Opera House, which has been entirely refitted with new stage and complete set of sliding scenery, was opened 21st, by J. h. Cooke and Kate P. Richetts, in Queen's Evidence, to a large and appreciative audience. Miss Richetts, as Kate Medland, did admirably, and was received with rounds of applause. She made her protessional debut here last September as Juno Temple, in Fate. Mr. Cook and Miss Richetts, but Testidents of this city, were with Kendall's Comedy co. last season, and are re-engaged for this.

INDIANA

FORT WAYNE.

Theatrical matters have been so very dull lately that I have not written a letter for several weeks. I will break my long silence by chronicing the appearance of Haverly's Minstrels at the Masonic Temple, soth. I started for the theatre, expecting to see an exceedingly small house and a medium.

me (J. B.

IOWA

CEDAR RAPIDS.

Greene's Opera House (Noxon, Albert and Toomey, managers): The Opera House was damaged by fire at 2 o'clock A. M. of the sist. The damage was confined to the anditorium; stage and scenery were untouched. House will be open August 2 with Clark Comedy co. for one week. The fire will not interfere with bookings. Already repairs are nearly completed. Mclatyre and Heath's Minstrels 19th; Devil's Auction, 18th; Katie Putnam, 20th.

Opera House (Duncan and Waller, managers): After being closed for several weeks, this house was opened 19th by the Newell Opera co. Played all week to good houses at reduced prices.

Correction: In my correspondence a few weeks ago I stated that Duncan and Waller had given the Vescilius Opera co. \$25 to help them out. Although this statement was published in all our local dailies, it has since been denied.

KANSAS.

AT ANSAS.

FORT SCOTT.

At the present writing our opera house is in the hands of the carpenters, who have taken out the entire interior and raised the roof. The house will be ready to open in September, with entire new stage, scenery, gallery, floor, and in fact everything with the exception of the walls. A new gallery entrance and two new boxes will be added. It will be seated with opera chairs and decorated in good style. The list of attractions already booked insures us a good season.

MAINE.

PORTLAND.

Greenwood Gardens: The management can't complain of the weather, for surely it has been most propitious and although John Ince's Surprise Party has drawn well, the length of the performance has been a drawback. The sooner this defect is remedied the better it will be for all concerned. Imagine John Ince copying John Mackay as the Photographer, and you have an idea of his Pop. Many of his gags are sorry chestnuts, and yet he is funny in the part. The piece itself is simply a vehicle for introducing several clever specialty stars, who were decidedly welcome, and the show as a whole was pleasing.

Pavilion: Variety is the spice of life, and there's lots of it here. A good bill has drawn big houses and the various stars have caught on. Sullivan and Williams are a fine team, and in the afterpiece, Muldoon's Picnic, were simply great.

Peace and quietness reign supreme since the Fantine weighed anchor and departed.

Peace and quietness reign supreme since the Fantise weighed anchor and departed.

Manager Knowlton is going to try the illumination act this week.

Leils Farrell is enjoying the sea breezes about her home preparatory to her season with Nat Goodwin.

Many professionals are at Old Orchard,
Forepaugh's show made a sad reputation in Maine, and trouble from thieves and confidence men fills the daily namers.

Augusta.

Among the bookings for Granite Hall for September are Kate Claxton, Roland Reed, Attinson and Cook's Dramatic co., Balabrega, and Crossen's Banker's Daughter co. This is a goodly number to start the season with

are Kate Ciaxton, Roland Reed, Atkinson and Coole's Dramatic co., Balabrega, and Croasen's Banker's Daughter co. This is a goodly number to start the season with.

Arena: Forepaugh's Circus met with another accident, at Deboc Junction, five miles below Woodstock, N. B., on the soth a car of the second section jumping the track and hilling a number of horses. The next day, 2334, at Fredericton, N. B., Amos Niles, of Dover, N. H., driver of the band wagon, was run over by one of the teams and fatelly injured.

On the principle that "the world in general owes us a living," and the State of Maine is particular, Henry, Jordan, the "slim-alam" falir with Forenaugh's show, proceeded to put the aforessid rule in practice in Bangor, and forgot to return five dollars while making change for an innocent "yohel." City Marshal Whitney, however, appeared, clothed with all the power of the law, forcibly collared the fervid Jordan and landed him in durance vile, kindly placing his tickets and ticket-box in the cell to keep him company. The Marshal was offered \$100 to let the gentle Jordan go, but it was a failure and he was brought before the City Judge and ordered to furnish \$300 bonds or pass sixty days in the county jail. He managed to get a Bangor man to go security for him, and left a "sadder but a wiser" nam. His arrest threw a damper over his noble compatriots, and not a case of attempted swindling was reported for that day at least.

A bellicose chum of Jordan named McLellan, proceeded to give his opision of the Bangor police in terms more forcibe than elegant when he was taken charge of and in the most considerate manner possible, incarcerated in the same institution as his friend. He was brought before the judge, and after being reprimanded and warned as to his future conduct, was allowed to depart to more congenial climes where the "gillie" flourishes and the "jay" revels in his native purity.

The DeComas, high wire bicycle and trapese arrists, left the Forepaugh party, having become disastinked with the management

MASSACHUSETTS.

LOWELL.
Obituary: Mrs. Josephine Omohundro died at East silleries on the syd inst., at the age of at

PITC

MICHIGAN

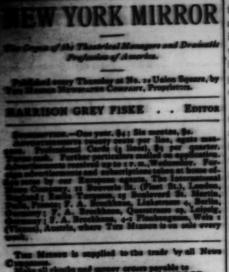
Hamblin's O A. C. Hamblin

NEW JERSEY.

Arena: At last the small boys' fond realized, and already the ponnies are one by together until the secondry half dollar is a placed side by side with thousands of other 19. On that day we celebrate a holiday look, you will not find on the calendar. The must depart from the usual customers. look, you will not find on the calendar. This year must depart from the susal custom and call it D. Holsday (heratolore it has been flaranum'a), become the control of the

and week, Prof. E. K. Crocher's Equine Marvels will ac-licit the peoples patronage.

Little Coney Island: Knowles, Hall and Devoy pre-sented Odds and Ends to good houses last week. The vocalism was fairly rendered. Week of sith, Charles B. Hicks' Consolidated Colored Minstrels. If the show is as good as the name they will give antifaction. Items: J. M. Woods will belp please Loster and Allen's patrons from his position in the circle.—Harry Rouclere has been spending several days at his home at



JULY 31, 1886.

P. & W.

The New York Mirror has the Largest ematic Circulation in America.

The Mirror at Summer Resorts. of THE MIRROR who are goin

own for the Summer can he ent to them, on the following warding their address an to this office:

TO NEWSDEALERS AND OTHERS:

uld there be any difficulty in obtain-THE MIRROR at any of the Summer s, the publishers will deem it a par-r favor to be informed of the fact. will immediately be taken to supply

dinstrelay's Decline.

riter in one of the daily papers, himran minstrel, traces the origin of that peculiarly indigenous entertainment, negro minstrelsy, number. The article shows and the pathos of slavery pearance in a sporadie ners whose business theatrical gatherings with

ent in the early days of the An ican stage. He indicated the favor with which the new idea met and how it grew into tangible shape and resulted in the oranization of troupes with a distinct and scellent style of performance.

But the writer neglects to account for elects to acc and its complete loss of popularity. Speak-ing on this subject not long ago, an oldtime minstrel manager and performer struck the keynote when he said: "Negro minstrelsy, pure and simple, received its death-blow when Lincoln signed the Act of Emancipation." It is true that just after the war its prosperity began to wane and die, and the significance of this fact, when coupled with the words we have quoted, must forcibly strike the observer. the negro emerged from slavery he lost the surroundings and many of the peculiarities that made him a fit subject for stage treatment. With freedom departed the sad interest of bondage. His songs lost their sentiment, his humor its childlike innocence, and his white brother, finding it incumbent to take the dusky freeman to his breast as a man and a brother, lost the power of viewing him in a semipoetic, semi-quizzical light.

Never again in this day or generation will there be a return to old-fashioned minstrelsy. Burlesquers, vocalists, clogdancers and other variety performers in burnt-cork may, operating under that title, flourish like the green bay tree, but the genuine essence of plantation life is as important so far as the stage is concerned as it is in reality.

The Dramatic Horoscope.

From the present outlook it appears as if the public would enjoy its best opportunity afforded in many years to robe the dangerous scope of public amusements in New York and the country at large. Incited by the spur of the press, all classes of aspirants in this direction, advanced heralds have appeared and blown blasts of defiance and encouragement on all the wind instruments at command.

On the result when the season opens the business, audiences and spectators will be confronted by an array of tragedy, comedy, melodrama, comic opera and grand opera and all the changes which can be rung on that line of enterprise.

Excellent occasion will be thus given to querists to take note as to what element predominates; whether the tendency is upward or downward and in what paths the best expectations are best met. The contributors and contestants in this tournament will bring up the question whether managers have selected better plays, actors improved in verve, costumes more carefully revised and adapted, and the pieces offered staged in the most effective man-

Our hopeful forecast on all these is that they will adjust themselves in reference to more exacting taste, and it will be found that a vast amount of trash which has heretofore passed the gates has been severely eliminated.

All the interests of the stage will, we believe, take an upward lift and impress upon its professors that a change has come and a new king is on the throne, and that notably the era of rot and rubbish has measurably passed away. The absence of intrusive bosh cannot fail to be observed; the clearance will be much more obvious than the quality of commodities to take its place. On this point we may not be so sure. Certain preliminaries already heralded necessitates higher standards, because the traditions so demand. But what of the new cropis it to be pure wheat or an unfortunate hybrid in which hackels choke the promse of the field?

Any confidence we may entertain as to etterment in the intellectual growth of the stage arises from the belief that the sickle will be freely applied to the crasure of unfruitful orchids, and that space may be thus secured for the indigenous plants of the country in their own proper soil. We may also hope that there will be less lavish and undiscriminating irrigation of imported specimens and seed that can not take fair root in American ground.

On certain lines we may fairly expect ome demonstrations of strength to be made. Foremost in the magnitude of its prospectus, it is hoped that the new musical organization will be able to make a show approaching more nearly to American Opera than they have heretofore furnished.

The practical genius of the country should provide one or two well-timbered, strongly-knit melodramas. From the fresheting rush in that direction we ought to be able to take a hand in comic opera. As to tragic dramatists, whoever they may he numerous plays and be, they fall back when they would select ple Theatre in that city.

an actor or actress to champion their

Great hope is entertained in man of a lady who belongs to the high class of tragic heroines will give an impu and in herself justify the presentation of some work in the first line of dramatic creation originating among ourselves and whom we may well be proud. Altogether we may set down in our horoscope that the sun still shines in spite of smoked glass in the streets and false prophets on the housetops.



Kingdon,-Above is a portrait of pretty Edith Kingdon, whose engagement with George Gould is again being bruited in the papers. Miss Kingdon is a cultivated as well as talented young lady, and if she should marry the millionaire's ardent son and retire into private life the stage would lose a very promising actress.

VERNER.-Charles E. Verner is spending the Summer at Asbury Park.

COLVILLE. - Samuel Colville is spending his elsure hours at Long Beach.

WARNER -Mrs. John E. Warner has gone o Greenwood Lake for the Summer. KARRINGTON.-Frank Karrington has been

engaged for a part in The Main Line. ALDRICH.-Louis Aldrich will sail from

Southampton for this country on August 4. Downing.-R. L. Downing has gone to his farm to perfect himself in gladiatorial combat.

ASHLEY .- Mr. and Mrs. Warren W. Ashley (Marie Heath) are at their Summer bome near Dixon. III. GRAY .- Ada Gray will probably bring out

The Ring of Iron at the Star Theatre in this city August 23. AIKEN,-Alma Aiken, daughter of Frank E. Aiken, will be a member of Fanny Daven-

port's company. Bowser. - For various reasons, Charles Bowser has decided not to go on the road with

Dollars and Dimes. MILLER.-Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miller (Bijou Heron) have been engaged for Clara

Morris' support. THOMAS.—Charles Thomas, of Hoyt and Thomas, won over \$450 at the races at Long

Branch last Saturday. ately selects the Yankee town of Keene, N.H.,

for his opening date. EYRE.-Sophie Eyre is inhaling the sea breezes at Asbury Park. She is registered at

the St. James Hotel there. MOORE.-Adelaide Moore's time is all filled. Miss Moore's manager's latest device is to let

off flights of carrier-pigeons. MERVILLE,-Negotiations are in progress for Lina Merville to play Gabriel in place of

Irene Verona in Evangeline. Bowers.-Mrs. D. P. Bowers' opening takes place in Pittsburg next month, where she opens the new theatre there.

FORSYTHE.-Kate Forsythe is in Paris. She will open her season in Marcelle and The Debt of Honor in St. Louis about October 1.

EVANS,-Prior to her regular opening at the Boston Globe, August 16, Lizzie Evans will ear in Asbury Park, Long Branch and

NOBLE.-Florence Noble, who has been reengaged by Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Florence, is in town and engaged in making additions to

STRELE.-Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Steele (May Steele), formerly of Rice's Evangeline company, are spending the Summer on their farm on Staten Island.

CAMERON.-Josephine Cameron, who has starred considerably in the West Indies, is arranging for a manager with a view to touring the United States

GILBERT.-It is understood that Gilbert and Sullivan's new opera, The Khedive, is based on a sketch called Ages Ago, written for Mr. and Mrs. German Reed.

STANLEY.-Charles Stanley, who is a comdian of no uncertain popularity in the City of therly Love, is engaged for the New Tem-

CLARKE.-John S. Clarke cabled from Lonondon yesterday that he would not come to

Mowat.-Helen Mowat and three of " Helen's Babies" accompany May Blossom on tour. One of these babies, a prattler of two, tour. One of the plays Me Too.

Nonles -Milton Nobles opens the regular ason at three leading theatres—the Grand, Chicago; Heuck's, Cincinnati, and the Grand, St. Louis-all in August.

COURTNEY.-Harold Courtney has been engaged by Lotta to play leading business in her company next season. Mr. Courtney is spend-ing the Summer at Noroton, Conn.

GALLAGHER. - May Gallagher is sur ing at Piermont-on-the-Hudson. She has declined two offers for next season, because the parts were beneath her expectations.

SEDGWICK.-Helen Sedgwick has joined th forces of the Bijou Opera House for the comopportunities for her advancement will not be lacking. GILLETTE -Fanny Gillette is considering

offers from Mrs. D. P. Bowers and the management of the Bidwell Star Stock company. If she accepts in either case, it will be for leading business.

KEAN.-Emily Kean has been engaged as leading support to C. A. Gardner in the play Karl. The season opens in Cincinnati on Sept. 6. Last season Miss Kean was the feature in Roland Reed's support.

WILEY.-Dora Wiley is singing in opera at Uhrig's Cave, St. Louis. She has made a hit in principal roles. Her voice is at its best, and she has overcome ail fear of its being injured by contact with the night air.

AVELING .- Mr. and Mrs. Henry Aveling (Mittens Willett) sailed from Liverpool on the Arisona on July 24. They begin rehearsals in The Gladiator on their arrival. Mr. Aveling plays Phasarius and Miss Willett Sonora HART.-Tony Hart is negotiating with Frank

Sanger for the American rights to Turned Up, farcical comedy that Willie Edouin will produce at the London Comedy this coming Saturday night. The central figure in Turned Up is an undertaker. CAZARAUN.-A. R. Cazaraun is rewriting

Bronson Howard's comedy, Baron Rudolph, for George S. Knight. Mr. Knight has a con tract to bring out the revised Baron at the Lyceum Theatre, this city, next Spring, and expects to make a run of it, OUTRAM .- Leonard S. Outram was to have

taken part in the performance of Tennyson's Becket at Wimbledon, but coming home one day from rehearsal he was thrown out of a wagon and injured painfully. One arm was broken and a shoulder badly sprained.

LEWIS.-Lillian Lewis is taking fencing les sons of Captain Alfred Thompson. She will fight six duels a week the coming season and sometimes eight. Besides appearing in Odette, she plays The Creole and a new play by Fannie Aymar Mathews, entitled The Brazilian.

WHITECAR,-W. A. Whitecar is engaged for Joseph Jefferson's season, Among our younger actors Mr. Whitecar is one of the most conscientious and at the same time versatile. During the past few seasons he has appeared in support of some of our best known stars.

BURROUGHS,-Marie Burroughs will make ber first appearance in San Francisco, since she left that city to win a place for herself on the New York stage, with the Madison Square company. Miss Burroughs' own name is Lillie Arrington and she belongs to a highly esteemed

ELLSLER.-In conversation with several friends the other day, John Ellsler said there was seven years' difference between his age and Joseph Jefferson's, and ten years between Edwin Booth's. Then he let slip the fact that he was born in 1822. According to this he is sixty-four years old, Jefferson fifty-seven and Booth fifty-four.

SCOTT.-Cyril Scott has bought a yacht. It is a cabin-sloop and is named the Rosedale. It has already been christened in several cruises, principally up the Hudson. After the close of Prince Karl at the Madison Square, Mr. Scott, with a few friends, will take a two weeks' cruise, with Newport as the objective

TAYLEURE.-C. W. Tayleure's experience may be quoted in illustration of the dema upon a manager's time and attention. Since ouncing Mrs. Chanfrau's appearance in Sir Charles Young's Scapegoat next season, and his need of a first class company to support her, he receives and replies to an average of twenty letters daily.

ARTHUR.-Joseph Arthur took a fishing trip down to Barnegat one day last week with a number of professional friends. He boasts that the party landed no less than 503 fish with the aid solely of book and line. But one of the party says that a literary effusion from the pen of Mr. Arthur was read aloud in the boat, and that thereafter dead fish were picked off the surface of the water.

RING.-The Prince Karl souvenir ring to words "Prince Karl" in raised Roman char-

Dickson -Louise Dickson having m ered her health has left Saratoga for a to the great lakes and the Adir nied by her daughter, Olive Be

MACDONOUGH,-T. B. MacDonough ha bought in Siberia and has already begun to book it for the season. The price paid was \$1,300, The popular play will no doubt still yield a

GLADYS .. - Elsie Gladys was favorably noticed by the press and public for her cleves acting as Gay Carlyle in Lynwood and Jack in After Dark on the recent Canadian tour of the Hedley company.

BOUVIER,-Alfred Bouvier, Annie Pixley's business manager, received some fine offers of other engagements when the unfounded rumor became current that Miss Pixley was about to retire from the stage.

MORETTI -- Eleanor Moretti (Mrs. King Hedler) made a decided sensation by her performance of Pauline-Called Back-in Halifax and other Nova Scotian cities. Her mad scene was especially praised by the press.

LANE,-John A. Lane will play Crassus in The Gladiator in support of R. L. Downing. Mr. Lane was leading support to McCullor for several seasons, and gained many admirers by his conscientious and excellent performance of Crassus.

Downing.-A portrait of R. L. Downing in character appears on the first page of THE MIRROR this week, Mr. Downing opens in The Gladiator at Chicago on August 16. Hehas made extensive preparations for the tour. and is sanguine of the best results.

SAXTON.-Marguerite E. Saxton, well known in Washington as an actress and as a coacher of amateurs, has arrived in the city. With a well established local reputation, it is Miss Saxton's desire to widen her sphere, and travel with a legitimate company of recognized prominence. While her forte is not confined, her particular line is leading heavies.

HUNDREDTH.-Applications have already been received at the Casino for seats and boxes for the hundredth night of Erminie, which occurs on Saturday, August 14. There will bea number of surprises, about which no one wil be the wiser until they occur. A new waltz by Aronson, "The Debutante," will be played for the first time.

PIXLEY.-Annie Pixley is making greate preparations for the forthcoming production of her new play, The Deacon's Daughter, than for anything she has done since the early days of M'liss. The music allocted to Miss Pixley is said to be very cleverly composed. The songs, mostly original, are incidental to the plot. One of them, words by A. C. Gunter, is a quaint ditty, entitled "The Song of the Tub." It is predicted that it will prove to be catchy.

FLATTERING.—The receipts of the closing night of Jim the Penman at McVicker's Theatre, Chicago, were \$1,541, which is an unusually large amount either for Summer or Winter. The entire company were called before the curtain at the close of the last act and were heartily cheered. On the organization leaving on Sunday for San Francisco, Mr. Rice, of the Tremont House, tendered them a farewell breakfast, and also sent a case of champagne down to their parlor cars.

The Actors' Fund.

Five applications for relief were received last week. Four were favorably passed upon. One has been offered a cot in the cancer hospital. One applicant was rejected as unworthy. There whom are in hospital.

There was expended in relief last week \$157. There was one funeral. The transportation of a sick actor from Hot

Springs to Chicago was paid. Six new applications for relief and one fu-

neral will be passed upon by the Executive Committee to-morrow, New members and annual dues paid in: Joseph Adelman, Frances Summer, Mrs. G.

A. Sprague, Arthur Sprague, Ella Byron, Alfa Perry, H. D. Byers, Genevieve Beauman, L. S. Anderson, Alfred Beverly, Hal Clarendon, Fanny Herring, Charline Weidman, G. Stuart Broderick, Floride Abell, Willis Granger, Barton Williams, Fannie G. Bernard, W. H. Meeker, Joseph L. McDuall, Joseph J. Levi and George W. Reed.

On Saturday last Charles A. Glyn resigned as manager of the Fund Dramatic Bures Yesterday (Wednesday) the committee on the Bureau held a meeting, but no action was taken on the appointment of Mr. Glyn's success The matter will be considered on Friday. There are several applicants for the position

The Parlor Match Comedians.

"Evans and Hoey arrived in the city from England on last Friday," said Harry Mann in a Mirror interview, "and rehearsals of A Parlor Match will begin about August 10, the season opening in Chicago the 28th. While abroad Messrs. Evans and Hoey purchased the burlesque of Little Jack Sheppard. They be given away to-morrow (Friday) evening at pronounce it a very funny piece, and would the Madison Square Theatre consists of a like to put it on soon. But the managers all quarter-inch band of sterling silver with the want the Match and they cannot hurry its production. Mr. Hoey will play Blueskin, Mr. acters; while the surface beneath is oxidized. Evans will do Jonathan Wild, and negotiations The rings are to be encased in plush boxes, on are pending with Lilie Grubb, who they say is the gilt cover of which are to be printed, one of the biggest successes in the Ador "Hundredth performance of Prince Karl."



In Uchering
ad him who can! The ladies call him, sweet.
—Love's Labor's Lost.

Everything nowadays has a tendency to save time and trouble. Not only do people set their brains at work to devise every imaginable luxury and facility that will grease the cogs and reduce the ceaseless friction of daily life, but there are several philanthropists abroad who exert themselves that we may be saved the trouble of thinking. They lull our minds to rest with the sweet conviction that not only shall we take our cushioned ease undisturbed, but while thus agreeably disposed they will systematically furnish us with a generous supply of original thoughts and opinions, free gratis for nothing. What need to weary our poor brains to produce ideas when they may be had in plenty without even the asking, second-hand? What good in entertaining original views or bothering ourselves to form personal opinions when there are others kind enough to evolve them for us?

I am moved to these reflections by the discovery that attached to several theatres in this city there are men whose business it is to supply the dramatic editors of the daily papers with a varied assortment of fulsome and flattering adjectives, applicable to such plays and actors as may from time to time occupy the boards of the establishments in whose interests they are employed. THE MIRROR is old-fashioned in that it has opinions distinctively its own and a stalwart objection to suffering the expression of any others from extrinsic and interested sources; therefore the labors of the local press-workers are not wasted in this direction. It is different, however, with the dailies, most of whose critics prefer the luxury of having the major part of their thinking done for them by others, and so the manipulators have things pretty much their own way in those quarters. Not only do many of the papers largely admit the "news" matter that is sent them by these interested parties to appear without amendment in their columns, but they frequently permit the managers' agents to pass favorable judgment on dramatic works and individual actors whose merit is infinitesimal.

Emboldened by the extent to which their stuff is used, the press-workers actually have come to consider that a rank injustice has been done them if their matter occasionally fails to find its way into print. They doubtless reason that it is gross ingratitude for a critic to turn his back on so prolific an avenue of ideas and comment. I am told by a gentleman who does the dramatic work for one of the leading morning papers that all last season from one of the combination theatres there was regularly sent down to his office on Monday night an extended puff or notice of whatever performance Lappened to take place that evening. This particular writer, being rarely entious both in respect to his readers and to himself, invariably consigned the boxoffice "criticisms" to the w. p. b. If the force at his command was insufficient to cover all the theatres where there were changes of bill, he preferred to omit some notices altogether rather than have resort to the popular newspaper cheat of hurriedly "faking" an article or ing the before mentioned managerial bulpressing the before mentioned letin into service. But the same gentleman informs me that he has frequently recognized, in the less carefully prepared dramatic columns of other morning papers, duplicates of the stuff he has thrown away.

As there are dramatic editors who, through laziness or incompetence, will allow themselves to be liberally worked by the pressagents, I don't blame the managers much for taking advantage of the opportunity thus af-forded to secure favorable and gratuitous mention for the enterprises in which they may be sterested. The thing, anyway, encompasses its own defeat, for the public will no more be fooled by lying newspaper notices than by lying posters and advertisements. The business fing has spread to such wide proportions, by the way, that it is about time the puffers udied the most efficacious methods of pursuing their misleading traffic, and eschewed the isy, transparent tricks which are now solely resorted to. They should learn that the alue of a puff, if any, lies in the concealment of its direct intention, and that an object that sibly intended for the transportation of pas- you so eight years together, dinners and sup-

ance of disinterested ingenuousness. Without duly considering these essentials, puffery is apto produce results quite the reverse of th

In one of Macaulay's most brilliant literary reviews he adverts to puffing—an evil which began to infest the world of letters about the middle of this century—in language quite as forcible and severe as the subject de By paraphrasing some of his remarks so that they are made to apply to the puffing of plays and actors, instead of books and authors, I find that they fit the present occasion admir ably. "Whether," he says, "those who formerly lavished insincere praise on others, or those who now contrive by every art of beggary and bribery to stun the public with raises of themselves, disgrace their voca tion the more deeply, we shall not attempt to decide. Devices which in the lowest trade are considered as disreputable are adopted without scruple and im-proved upon with a despicable ingenuity by people engaged in a pursuit which never was and never will be considered as a mere trade by any man of virtue and honor. A butcher of the higher class disdains to ticket his meat, A mercer of the higher class would disdain to hang up a paper in his window inviting the passers-by to look at the stock of a bankrupt, all of the first quality, and going for half the value. We expect some reserve, some decent pride in our batter and our bootmaker. But no artifice by which notoriety can be obtained is thought too abject for the actor or the manager. It is no excuse for the actor that the praises of journalists are procured by the money or influence of his manager or agent, and not by his own."

"It is for his honor as a gentleman," continues our incisive essayist, "and if he is really a man of talents, it will eventually be for his nonor and interest as an actor, that his work should come before the public recommended by its own merits alone, and should be discussed with perfect freedom. If his objects be really such as he may own without shame, he will find that they will, in the long run, be better attained by suffering the voice of criticism to be fairly heard. At present we too often see a player attempting to obtain fame as Shakespeare's usurper obtains sovereignty. The manager plays Buckingham to the actor's Richard. Some few creatures of the conspiracy are dexterously disposed here and there in the crowd. It is the business of these hirelings to throw up their caps and clap their hand, and utter their vivas. The rabble at first stare and wonder, and at last join in the shouting for shouting's sake; and then a crown is placed on a head that has no right to it, by the huzzas of a few servile dependents." Could not my readers name several such Richards who are usurping authority in the profession at the present moment?

Sydney Rosenfeld and young Hewitt are not, it seems, to monopolize the field of topical song-writing any longer, for Albert Ellery Berg, a journalist of this town, has come to the fore in this capacity. The ditty, "If I Were Only a Man," which Alice Harrison recently introduced in the last act of The Maid of Belleville at Chicago, and which met with much applause, was written by Mr. Berg, who now proposes to turn out some more of the same sort of rhyme. The music was composed by Frank David, the first comedian of the company.

An actor, at present stationed with a Summer company in Maine, writes to me as follows: "Let me congratulate THE MIRROR on its endeavors to practically benefit the protession whose special organ it is. By practically, I mean the enlargement of its sphere to teaching as well as disseminating news. In its efforts to technically correct mispronunciations it deserves the applause of all conscientious members of the profession. You would, perhaps, be surprised to know how much discussion the little you have said on this head has excited even within the narrow circle of a Summer company. Let the good work go on." It shall. When the next season fairly begins let the players beware of errors and inelegancies of speech. THE MIRROR's chiel will be amang ye takin' notes, an' faith, he'll prent

The leading concert managers and pianomakers of this city have sent a communication to the Railroad Association, which meets at Chicago, protesting against the rule that travelling concert organizations are obliged to express their pianos and organs from point to point. The petitioner state that the rule is onerous, inconvenient and, in some instances, impracticable. The heavy express charges make it impossible for a number of troupes to travel over the Association roads. They want the railway people to rescind the objectionable order, and allow concert managers to carry instruments in the baggage cars without charge, their own men loading and unloading them, and the owners releasing the companies from all risks of injury in transportation and responsibility for loss. Among those whose name are appended to this letter are Weber, Steinway, Mason and Hamlin, Chickering, Decker, Sohmer, Major Pond, the Chevalier von Wartege and Henry Woltsohn. Baggage-cars are osten-

ble, I presume the Railroad Ason is likely to consent. But imagine the peril of a handsome "concert grand," even though it be securely boxed, in the very heart of the ruthless baggage smasher's lair !

William Winter has a very succinct acco of Joseph Jefferson's ancestry and career in the August Harper's. A very inadequate por trait of the comedian as Bob Acres, from J.W. Alexander's painting, forms the frontispiece of this number. The limits of a magazine a are of course too restricted to admit of anything approaching a complete biography or critical review, but Mr. Winter manages to touch upon all the salient and interesting feat ures of the great artist's brilliant stage life and manages to throw some friendly side lights upon his many lovable and gentle personal characteristics. The writer, aside his literary and critical ability, is peculiarly fitted to treat his subject understandingly and appreciatively. Winter for many years has been one of Jefferson's closest friends.

Winter mentions the fact that Jefferson he played more than a hundred parts, and ascribe the fashion of calling him a "one-part actor to ignorance or injustice. But the critic admits that he has obtained his fame and influence mainly by acting one part. He quotes in this connection a remark made by Charles Mathews and Jefferson's retort.

"I am glad to see you making your fortune Jefferson," said Mathews, "but I don't like to see you doing it with a carpet-bag"-referring to the limited compass in which our comedian's wardrobe for Rip could be stowed, and to his one part reputation.

"It is perhaps better," replied Jefferson, "to play one part in different ways than to play many parts all in one way."

The sketch closes with a picturesque description of Jefferson's plantation near Iberia in Louisiana. "It is a place," says the writer, "where any man might be happy. It is an island in the prairie, but high and variegated, containing more than six hundred acres of land, and isolated by a broad, shining, steelblue lake, and by an arm of one of the bayous of that well-watered country-the country associated with Longfellow's 'Evangeline,'and in which still may be found the race of the exiled Acadians. It is ten miles from the nearest neighbor. Almost every kind of wood that grows may be found growing upon this estate. Some of its trees are nearly three hundred years old, and in Summer the great spreading boughs of these giants are profusely draped, in many a green dell, not only with the long, funereal moss of the South, but with brilliant and odorous tropical flowers. Six or eight orange groves are scattered over the place. Many kinds of wild fowl live in the woods and swamps and on the lake, and often the blue waters are cleft by the rapid cance of the sportsman in pursuit of this delicate and delicious game. In one wild part of this gorgeous solitude an eagle has made his nest on the peak of a tall, stalwart pine tree. Jefferson's dwelling, a spacious mansion embowered by large trees, stands upon a gentle eminence, looking southward, and comma an unbroken prospect of miles and miles of lonely prairie, over which the dark buzzards slowly sail and the small birds flit merrily about, and through which herds of roving less shapes, roam lazily around, making a changeful picture of commingled motion and seace. Here, with his wife and children, his books, his pictures, the art of painting for an occupation, and the memories of a good and honored life for a solace, he reaps the harvest of a quiet mind, and calmly looks onward to the sunset of life,"

When Manager J. M. Hill, Wegg-like dropped into poetry and gave to the world that brated ballad, "Tender Grace," he probe bly did not foresee the consequences. Here they are, likewise in verse, perpetrated by Scott Marble. The dramatist sends along a diagram, in the shape of a letter, which says: 'These few verses answer in the abstract Mr. Hill's 'Tender Grace,' that no matter how much we may yearn for solace in this busy world, we find annoyances, vexations, distude ever and ever more." Mr. Marble describes his effort as a "solitaire" and gives it

EVER MORE Gain and loss, and loss and gai A little less, and a little mor Pain and pleasure, pleasure and Ever and ever more!

Now a lover with joy to greet. Then a heart that is bleedin

eeting to part, parting to m Ever and ever more.

Giving to take, and taking to give: Looking backward, looking befor Living to die, and dying to live Ever and ever more.

True and false, and false and true, Store of good, and evil store, The day of our life in made of you Ever and ever more.

To quote Master Touchstone, "I'll rhyme

Henry Arthur Jones writes me as follo om his country-seat in Bucks, England, und date of the 15th inst.; "I hoped to get ac to America this Autumn and to make a ! keep me on this side, I am afraid, for the remainder of the year. I follow Sophia at th English life; but Sophia is really doing so well that there is no likelihood of my piece being wanted for some time to come. Charles Wyndham has taken the Princess' for Christmas and will produce a four-act melodi eading part. When I get safely over these oubles (if I do) I shall make a point of running over to New York."

Mr. Jones says that the elections have horoughly upset theatrical business on his side for the five weeks previous to his letter, but when he wrote it began to show signs of picking up again. "I get your interesting pe every week," he adds, "and look forward its arrival. It keeps me well posted in the dramatic doings of a whole continent—a continent, by the way, that has been most generous to me. I always look back with the gre est pleasure to the few weeks I spent on your

A correspondent writing from Sherman Texas, wishes me to settle an argument as to he pronunciation of and derivation of "Semiramide," and also the correct pronunciation of "Eurydice." "Semiramide" is the Italian equivalent for the Assyrian "Semir being dropped and the syllable de added the sake of euphony—a pre-eminent quality all the music languages of Southern Euro Semiramis is a semi-historical, semi-myth tion, reigned Queen of Assyria about 2000 years B. C.; was renowned as the builder of Babyles, the victrix of many fierce wars, and who finally showed the strength of her maternal love by showed the strength of her maternal love by abdicating in favor of her plotting son N inyes and flying off in the form of a dove. Semiramide is pronounced with the following syllabic division: Se mir a mi de. The vowels of course have the Italian sound and the accent of each syllable is even. "Eurydice" is diof each syllable is even.

vided thus: Eu-ryd i cr, and the same rule applies in respect to accentuation. The wo of course, is of Greek origin,

A young lady well-known in New York soclety sends me a letter from Cologne that con-tains some characteristically Kate Shipley-ish observations on men and manners abroad. She is particularly severe on the men she ha encountered on the Continent. "In Hollas she writes, "we fought at every ticket-office until I almost exploded with rage. The men have no manners. Often Mrs. B. and myself weary length of a station while the po stood by and puffed tobe empty air. The men regard women as beasts of burden, as it were, and accept them as necessary evils for the sake of the work they de nd the children they get. Give me an A ican man, who looks upon my sex as only a little less than the angels. They may not have the finesse of the Frenchman or the fine form good and true." Foreign travel certainly develoos the latentAmericanism in the breasts of our young people, so it is to be encouraged.

My fair correspondent says the first the she visited in London was the Ge "While waiting at the door of the theatre for a friend," she continues, "in walked Adonis, I had met him once in New York, so I sk pleasant chat followed. We didn't like our over so I told Mrs. H. she might try the note on my card, saying our place was ac good, and sent it to H. E. D. He immediately Adonis doesn't exactly take in London. The shop scene-one of the best, I thought-had to be cut out altogether."

While out riding at Stewartsville, N. J., the other day, Leslie Gossin was thrown fro a wagon. One of the wheels passed over his right collar-bone and right arm, fracturing the Mr. Gossin will be confined to the house, so the doctors say, for three weeks. He seems to be peculiarly unfortunate in respect to accidents. While playing in Boston some time ago he sustained an injury whereby he lost one of his fingers.

Some time ago Mrs. Warbrick wrote a drar

A Road Casino C

"There is to be a p

be but one travelling Casino o more. All matters of ted in a few days."

John Reed, the father of Roland I Saturday last, after being away sever the longest trip he has ever made George C. Brotherton for the Ten after a year's absence from work he time hung so heavy on his ha sire to return to active service

ROVINCIAL

and Atchison, managers). Charle inn Rhodes will appear joth and medy. Life Among the Rockies. as will exhibit his circus August 3 flows at this place has change a retires. F. Y. Allen and W. 8

Circus attracted large crowds from agd. The street parade in the mora-and and stupendous as Mr. Robbins so grand and stupendons as Mr. Robbin The menagarie was very scant, and alto-a circus on a small scale. As the small d, it was "one horse affair." Jerome and contentialists, did some clever performing, only ones that received hearty applanes. afteraoon performance the circus co. and then to Codar Hill Cometery where a last spect was paid at the grave of Ben Lusbie an former years as the "lighting ticket."

The season of a tree times of attractions. The season combes to be the best Newark has ever had.

ZANESVILLE.

Built's and Co.'s Opera House was opened sath for a summer engagement of the Wilson and Rankin Mind.

I dare say, if the management had surmised to wretched entert-inneant was in store, they would stept the house closed. It was the poorest excuse first class minstrel performance I ever saw. The term was been selected to a condition of the control of the was harrible and the singing excerable, while the with two encaptions, would not do credit to a condition. George Wilson was as clever as ever in his laily, and seemed to put usuaual energy and vim his business. He was highly enjoyable. The Lentrolson did a meritorious acrobatic and hat-toosing. Otherwise the show was had; it is avidently a sear step, A mammoth minstrel organization was reason. A mammoth minstrel organization was reason in all. Carl Rankin failed to put in an apmace. I have since learned that he was on a "thur' in Columbus. Eddie Fox was also announced, but as an allatant frem here as though he were in the

emy of Music (W. G. Robinson, manager): The on-Haywood comb., playing a Summer circuit, ag Akren, Canton and Youngstown—appearing ghts each week in each place—held the boards fath, presenting Ingomer and Joshus White o crowded houses. This co, has appeared in a extensive reportore, and the performances on, without an exception, smooth and meritori-August 6 the closing performance of the Summer will be given. (In this occasion the co, will be d by N. C. Chisneli, of the Aimee co,, and by mateurs. Mclatvie and Heath's Minstrels, 30th. as; Manager Robinson's bookings for the coming chready include many first-class attractions.—

G. Chisnell is enjoying his Summer rest in the of his family and surrounded by the friends of lithood—Harry Clemmens is also at home for the str.

OREGON.

PORTLAND.

atre (J. B. Howe, a are still playing to a for the next two we howe and family h

PENNSYLVANIA

OIL CITY.

During the Summer lull our managers have been oking some very fine attractions for the coming sean, which will open about middle of August. Below is und a few of the attractions already booked: Mexican renestra, Janish, Two Johns, Youth, Thomas Keene, short. Freund, Michael Strogoff, Rhen, Rag Baby and

RHODE ISLAND.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Opera House (W. S. Foose, manager): The Mexican Typical Orchestra gave fine concerts 23d and 24th before three very good houses. Their performance it new and oleasing, and was highly pleasing to their audiences. Each artist appeared in his native costume, and they were all recalled at the conclusion of every number rendered.

WISCONSIN.

SHEBOYGAN.

Sheboygan Opera House (J. M. Kohler, manager);
The Wilberforce Concert co. came for three sights, r4th, 15th and 46th, but did a very poor business. The co. is usade up of some of the best talent of the Wilberforce University, Ohio, and is now making its fifth tour. All colored people. The programme consists mostly of plantation songs, which are rendered most satisfactorily. The Chicago Juvenile Mikado co. played 17th to a good house. Performance fair.

Arena: Barnum is coming August 24.

ONHEOSH

Zozo co. played to crowded houses Friday and Saturday evenings. Blanche Curtisse as leading lady doctomarkably well. The scenery and settings are gorgeou and elaborate.

WYOMING.

Dera House (J. W. Stryker, manager): Sangulunch of Keys to fair audience 19th.

CANADA.

Grand Opera House (John Ferguson, manager):
The Templeton Opera co. presented The Mikado 23d
and 24th, to well-filled houses. Jay Taylor, J.W. Herbert and Emma Mabella Baker acquitted themselves
admirably. The chorns and orchestra were inferior.
Royal Roller Rink (J. R. Furlong, manager): That
startling novelty, Pinafore, was presented week of 19th
to fair business. Fanchon is the bill for week of soth.
Items: J. H. Gilmour, assisted by J. R. Furlong and
an amateur co., presented Alone, 20th, the occasion
being a benefit to Mr. Gilmour. A fair crowd was present.

DATES AHEAD.

Managers of travelling combinations will favor us by sending every week advance dates, and mailing the same in time to reach us on Monday.

DRAMATIC COMPANIES.

ARTHUR REMAN'S CO.: Norristowa. Pa., August Poughkeepsie, Sept. 3; Toronto. 6, week.
Annis Pixley: Providence, August 30.
AIMES: N. Y. City, Sept. 6, two weeks.
A STEANGE MARRIAGE Co.: Syeacuse, August 30.
AARON WOODBULL: Baltimore, August 23, week; P. Albibis. 20. week. ALONE IN LONDON Co.: Cleveland, August 27.
BELLA MOORE'S Co : San Francisco, July, 19. three

-House Co.: Providence, Sept. 6, week. Success Co.: Pittsburg, August 30.

BOUND TO SUCCEED CO.: Pittsburg, August 30.

BARRY AND FAY: Allentown, Pa., August 30. Wilkesbarre, 31; Scranton, Sept. 1; Binghamton, N. Y., 2:

Elmira, 3; Williamsport, Pa., 4.

BOY TEAMP CO.: N. Y. City, 36, week.

C. A. GARDHER (Karl): Indianapolis, 26, week.

CLARA MORRIS: BOSTON, Sept. 23.

COMDEMNED TO DEATH CO.: Boston, August 23.

CROSSEN'S BANKER'S DAUGHTER CO.; Bangor, Me.

CARRIES SWAIN: Los Angeles, Cal.. 26, week; San Francisco, August 20.
CLARK COMEDY CO.: Lacrosse, Wis., 26, week; Cedar Rapida, Ia., August 22, week; Dubuque, 0, week.
DALYS' VACATION CO.: Newburyport Mass., August 26; Lowell. Sept. 2.
DEWIL'S AUCTION: Cedar Rapida, Ia., August 22; Oreenfield, Mass., 23; Brattleboro, Vt., 24; Claremont, N. H., 25; Rutiand, Vt., 26; Burlington, 26, 27.
EDWIN EGOTH: Buffalo, Sept. 13.
ETHIL TUCKER: Amsterdam, N. Y., 26, week.
E. K. COLLIER: N. Y. City, August 20, two weeks.
EMMA WARDEN: Rockford, Ill., 26, week; Elgin, August 23, week; Aurora, 0, week.
EVAMGALIME (Rice'2s): Chicago, June 2—indefinite setaton; Boston, Sept. 6.
Enway Mayar Co.: Fresport, Ill., August 23.
FRANK MAYO: Fittston, Pa., August 23; Buffalo, 30.
FRED. WARDE: N. Y. City, August 16.
FLORENCES (Mr. and Mrs. W. J.): Toronto, August 30, week.

ARRON LIGHT CO.: Pitteburg.
W. Va., August 10.
W. Va., August 10.
REPERTY LEWIS: San Francisco, 26, week.
OMN T. RAYMOND Desver, 26, week.
OMN T. RAYMOND Desver, 26, week.
Honyagus Co.: Norwalk, Ct., August Co., Morragus, Sept. 6; Bo

CLANSON: Boston, August 9, week.

R. RHOADES: Niles, O., August 19, 20, 21.

185. Paul, Sept. 1.

10 Languar Co.: Brooklyn, Sept. 9, week; Chi-LEGANIC BROTHERS: Hoboken, August e, week, LILIAN OLCOTT: N. Y. City, Sept. 22. LILIAN LEWIS Syracuse, Name 22.

wes Morra Caisvo Co.: Pittsburg, Pa., 25, week.
Frie Chuscu: Hobokse, N. J., 23, week.
V Blosson Co.: Albany, August 2, week.
Blosson Co.: Albany, August 2, week.
Loo, August 2, four manie.

work.
B. CURTIS: San Francisco, of, week.
ISS. D. P. Bownes: Pittsburg, Sept. 6, week.
AUDS BANKS: POTSMOUTH, N. H., AUGUST LASS LINE CO.: N. V. City, Sept. 43.
SELVILLE STSTERS: Zancsville, O., of, week.

TI Rosa: Springfield, O., August 18; Cincin RAG BASY Co.: N. Y. City, Sept. 6.
R. L. Downing: Chicago, August 26.
RHEAR St. John, N. B., August 25.
RABCH 10 Co.: Philadelphia, August 30. week.
RADMUND-BARRY Co.: Providence, July 5, four we
RECHARD MANSFIELD: N. Y. City, July 22, four we

ept. 13. N. Y. City, July 22, four weeks; Box

lena, Kas., August s, week; Ottawa, 9, week; Oswego 17, week. interpret by the Light of the Moon (Fowler an Warmington): Port Huron, Mich. August o: Lan

SKIPPED BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON (Fowler and Warmington): Port Huron, Mich, August 9; Lansing, 16.

Sol Smith Russell: Eau Claire, Wia., August 9; Lacrosse, 10; Winona, Minn., 11; Rochester, 12; Faribault, 13; Red Wing, 14; Stillwater, 16; Ashland, Wis., 17; Duluth, Minn., 18; Brainerd, 10; Fargo. Dak., 30; Fergus Falls, Minn., 91; Minneapolis, 23, 24, 25; St. Paul, 26, 27, 28.

Stranglers of Paris Co.: Newark, Sept. 6, week. Silver King Co.: Hoboken, Sept. 13.

Saphore Dramatic Co.: Lima, O., 26, two weeks. Switzer King Co.: Hoboken, Sept. 13.

Saphore Dramatic Co.: Lima, O., 26, two weeks. Switzer Comedy Co.: Spring Valley, Ill., 26, week; Fulton, August 2, week.

Tin Soldier Co.: Mustegon, 36, week.

Taken From Life Co.: Philadelphia, August 23.

Tyo Johns Co.: Titusville, Pa., August 27.

W. J. Scanlar: N. Y. City, August 27.

W. J. Scanlar: N. Y. City, August 27.

Wages of Sin Co.: Montreal, Sept. 6

Wilber Dramatic Co.. Bay City, Mich., 26, week. Zozo Co.: Des Moines, Ia., 36, 29, Council Bluffa, 30, 31; Denver, August 2, week; Leadville, 9 to 12; Pueblo, 13, 14.

Zitka Co.: Jersey C ty, Sept. 2, 3, 4; Newark, 6, week.

blo, 13, 14.

ZITKA Co.: Jersey C ty, Sept. 2, 3, 4; Newark, 6, week.

Baltimore, 13, week; Philadelphia, 20, week.

OPERA AND CONCERT COMPANIES. ACADEMY OPERA Co.: Washington, June 28-indefinit

SCANDLA URSC: Cheboygan, Mich., 29; Sault Ste.
Marie, 30; St. Ignace, 31; Cadillac, August 2; Manistee, 3; Ludington, 4.
DUFF'S UPERA C .: San Francisco, August 30.
HOLMAN OPERA CO.: Detroit, July 26, two weeks.
McCaull's Opera Co.: Washington, June 14—indeficted. nite.
MacCollin Opera Co.: Cincinnati, June 28-indefi-MAID OF BELLEVILLE Co.: Chicago, July 26, two weeks.

MENICAN TYPICAL ORCHESTRA: Lafayette, Ind., 30, 31;
Indianapolis, August 2, week.

NORMAN OPERA Co.: Cleveland, August 23, week.

STARE OPERA Co.: Grand Rapids. Mich., August 2, we:k.

TEMPLETON OPERA Co.: Montreal, 26, week; Quebec, August 2, week.

August 2, week.
THEO. THOMAS CONCERTS: Chicago, July 5, five weeks.
THOMPSON OPERA CO.: St. Louis, July 12, three weeks.
Wilbur Opera Co.: Baltimore, 19, two weeks. MINSTREL COMPANIES.

BIRCH AND REED'S: San Francisco, 19, two weeks; Chicago, August 16. BAIRD'S: San Francisco, 26, week; Los Angeles, August 12, 13, 14. CLAPHAM'S: Rochester, 26, week; Buffalo, August 2; CLAPHAM S: Rochester, 30, week; Buraio, August 2; Montreai, q, week.
Hicks' Colored: Paterson, N. J., 26, week.
Haverly's: Chicago, 26, two weeks; Keokuk, Ia., August 25; K. Louir, 28.
Lester and Allen's: Pittston, Pa., August 20; Pottsville, 27.
MILLENNIAL: Chicago, July 26, two weeks,
MCINTYRE AND HEATH'S: Cedar Rapids, Ia., August

19.
McNish, Johnson and Slavin's: N. Y. City, August 33; Auburn, 30.
T. P. W.: Detroit, August 3; Buffalo, 4, 5; Manchester, N. H., 31.
Wilson and Rankin's: Williamsport, Pa, 29, 30.

VARIETY COMPANIES. BEAME-GILDAY Co: Hoboken, August o, week.
FOUR EMERALDS: Chicago, July 19, three weeks.
HUME-WESLEY Co.: Washington, 26, week.
IAS SIDDONS: Buffalo, August 2, week.
LILLY CLAY'S ADAMLESS EDEN Co.: Boston, 26, week;
N. Y. City, August 2, week; Pittston, Pa., 23.
TONY PASTOR'S Co.: Rochester, August 2.

MISCELLANEOUS

BRISTOL'S EQUESCURNICULUM: Saginaw City, Mich., week; N. Y. City, August 16, three weeks.

KELLAR: Chicago, July 19, three weeks.

MATT MORGAN DIURAMA CO: Cincinnati, August week. week.
PROPESSOR CROCKER'S EQUINES: Paterson, N. J., 26, week; Asbury Park, August s, week. TOWY DENIER'S H. D. Co.: Japesville, Wis., Sept. 11.
Winnert's European Enterprise Co.; Brooklyn, E.
D., 26, week: Harlem, N. Y., August 28.
Weston Brothers: Newark, N. J., August 28.

CIRCUSES.

CIRCUSES.

ADAM FOREPAUGU'S: Glasgow, N. S., so; Amberst. 30; Chatham, 31; River du Loup, Can., August 2; Point Levi, 3; Sherbrook, 3; Hyscinth, 6; Huntington, 7; Montreal, 9, 10; Ottawa, 11; Cornwell, 12; Prescott, 13; Brockville, 14; Kingston, Napanee, 17; Belleville, 14; Ringston, Napanee, 17; Belleville, 13; Barnum's: Chicago, Danville, Ill., 29; Champaign, Ill., 30; Bloomington, 31; Peoria, August 2; Decatur, 2; Springfield, 4; Jacksonville, 5; Hannibal, Mo., 6; Quincy, Ill., 2; Keokuk, Ia., 9; Burlington, 10; Galesburg, Ill., 12; Rock Island, 12; Clinton, 13; Mendota, 14; Aurora, 16; Rockford, 17; Freeport, 18; Janesville, Wis., 19; Madison, 30; Watertown, 21. Burr Alo Bill.'s Wild West Show: Staten Island, N. Y., June 48—indefinite.
Colle's: Portage La Prairie, Man., 29; Brandon, 30; Winniper, 31; Fargo, Dak, August 3; Bismarck, 4. Cour's: Daswille, Ill., 20. Dosts': Poughkeepsie, N.Y., August 9; Paterson, N.J., 30.

A Scribe's Outing.

Moncton is a pretty village, situated on a river the name of which is so crooked and knotty in its syllabic vertebræ that we broke seven J pens in trying to spell it, so shall give the attempt up before more harm comes. The Hotel Brunswick is delightfully clean and comfortable, the food nourishing and palatable and the liquor pure. The theatre is upstairs over the public market, and, consequently, has a meaty flavor, but is pretty and convenient, and the audience is a well-dressed, well-behaved and intelligent one. There being nothing to

Fredericton, on the St. John River, is a insight and importance of the Refl. place of importance. Firstly, it is the capital of New Brunswick. Parliament sits there in a palace gorgeous to behold and worthy of the high importance of that legislative body of sages. There is also a Canadi in West Point, or Military College, in which the officers of the Dotary College, in which the officers of the Company up St. Mary's Bay and towns adjacent thereto, after which the house of the Company up St. Mary's Bay and towns adjacent thereto, after which the house of the Company up St. Mary's Bay and towns adjacent thereto, after which the house of the Company up St. Mary's Bay and towns adjacent thereto, after which the house of the Company up St. Mary's Bay and towns adjacent thereto, after which the house of the Company up St. Mary's Bay and towns adjacent thereto, after which the house of the Company up St. Mary's Bay and towns adjacent thereto, after which the house of the Company up St. Mary's Bay and towns adjacent thereto, after which the house of the Company up St. Mary's Bay and towns adjacent thereto, after which the house of the Company up St. Mary's Bay and towns adjacent thereto, after which the house of the Company up St. Mary's Bay and towns adjacent thereto, after which the house of the Company up St. Mary's Bay and towns adjacent thereto, after which the house of the Company up St. Mary's Bay and the C minion army are trained to stand fire and initiated in "Shoulder Humps" and "Rear rank take soda water! Star-r-r ch." At least that is the time of the orders—the words being, like the words of opera singers, indistinct.

The standing army of Fredericton consis of one hundred rank and tile-twenty bandsmen, and officers enough to go around all the girls and some to pare for visitors. One little "Captain all covered with lace" was very impressive. He was about four feet six in his high-heeled boots, and irresistibly brought to mind the redoubtable Tim Tappertit as he stood on the steps of the "Queen" Hotel and "eyed" the company over. He was a terrible warrior, and calculated to strike awe into the breasts of all opposers, and "to fright the souls of fearful adversaries." Besides which we oubt not he could "caper nimbly in a lady's chamber to the lascivious pleasings of a lute." The military band here is excellent. It is a cornet band, like that of Dodworth in times of yore. The Master is an Irishman by name Hays-formerly well known in New York as a slide-solo trombone player, and bandmaster in the United States army all through the late unpleasantness. He is a capital musician and a very obliging, gentlemanlike fellow. Among his men we must mention one by name Boswell, who plays the euphonium right craftily, making excellent music. Above all, the band played in tune-only fancy, a military band in tune !

Fredericton, like other villages in the region round about, is "quite English, you know." "'Awthorne 'edges, me by;" velvety turf, shaved as if by a barber, and all the appurtenances of "'Ome, sweet 'ome." There being nothing to do all day, the picnickers did it cheerfully, played to a full house, or, rather, hall, for the theatre is in the City Hall, and departed well pleased, leaving several squadrons of inchoate Lord Wolseleys disconsolate and loathing their very uniforms, once so cherished and admired. Besides the regular forces of the State, there is a strong counterpart, a sort of volunteer second battalion, yclept the "Salvation Army," which musters strong in these maritime villages and towns. A potent body of men and women at arms and children in arms, for "Hallelujah Sal," although an Amazon, follows not the example of her classic types, but fulfils the Divine order to "multiply the land" very obediently.

Now, this army of martyrs were violently opposed to the notion of a theatrical performance: it offended their piety-and their jealousy. They wanted all the fooling to themselves, and so marched on the enemy in force at-7:30 P. M., with banners and bibles, drums and tamborines, cracked cornets and wheezy voices in dire cacophony of sound. The "Captain, vot vos the kimmaunder" had a Seven Dials voice, composed of equal parts of gin, fog and religion, and snored his spiritual commands and hymns in that nasal melody that is supposed to have especial charms for the Almighty ear, which, inasmuch as "His ways are not as our ways," doubtless goes by contrarys, and prefers cacophony to harmony, The First Lieutenant was of the female persuasion and far advanced in-well, her figure was not exactly suitable for the light bobs. When she "ordered arms" she crossed them over the lower end of her chest, you kno and she led the vocal and instrumental band in a cracked soprano, "entuned through her neze full sweetlye," as old Chaucer tells us religious women were wont to do it ever in his

This gallant army selected the grass plot in front of the theatre as their ' Valley of Jenoshaphat" and "planted their standard there." Their voices shrieked, their fifes squeaked. their cornets howled, their tamborines rattled and their drums banged as if the gallant soldiers of the cross were bent on taking Heaven by storm and setting up a new celestial dynasty; and all this row for the fell purpose of "queering the faker's pitch" and hindering the public from going to the show.

But, as often happens, their zeal worked its own defeat, inasmuch as the terrific booming of the drums and other instruments of music, by their noise attracted instead of repelling the populace, who came, saw, and straightway entered the gates of Hades-i. e., the theatre-in crowds, to the intense disgust of the nasal Captain of the S. A. and his prolific Lieutenant, who, accepting defeat, "folded their tents and silently stole away, leaving the field to the enemy, which foe had an excellent house and a full chest as the spoils of victory.

The company then returned to St. John, N. B., whither they were attracted by a unani mous call to give a benefit to the Fire Salvage Corps of that burg, which came off accordingly and triumphantly, the whole town apparently turning out to do honor to their gallant fire laddies and their generous friends the barnstorm ers, and there Martinus Scribblerius was flattered to hear that a large assortment of Minnons had been ordered at the hands of Mr. Morton Harrison, wherein the natives might "see themselves as in a glass darkly." So do in Moncton but eat, drink and be merry, the great was the sensation created by his remarks barnstorming rovers faithfully obeyed that on the sayings and doings of that city on a wise precept of Epicurus and put on still more hill and their desire to 'see themselves as ithers see us," which fact speaks loudly for the

next season, having enjoyed a good to seen "men and cities," if not caught

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MR. JAMES L. CARHART. First Old Me

The Fatal Influence of Long Runs.

who, upon a piece reaching the unpre-run of fifty nights, forgot his lines. er remonstrated next day, when actor replied, "Shure, now, yez don't ex-What would be have said if for three ars he had been demonstrating in Hazel sed, or if year after year he kept on selling

ong runs and the road are destroying the sor's art. That profession which of all s ought to be free from all taint of m is fast degenerating into a specialism of the meanest order. It is easy to underand why, in the vast extent and variety of world's transactions at the present day, there should be in many learned pursuits a tendency for men to single out some branch of learning and devote all their skill to a complete mastery of it. The causes which make one lawyer devoted, say to shipping law, another learned in real estate, a third to equity and a fourth to criminal law, are complex enough, it is true; but they are referrable to fact that the vast general body of legal learning and practice is beyond the grasp of any one mind in the course of a lifetime which is all too short even to read the books upon the subject. In the face of this, men. unable to carry the whole cargo, shoulder a part manfully and carry it well. Again, in the nedical profession the discoveries and appliances of science have been so extraordinary and have so startlingly revealed the fact that even yet philosophers are but upon the threshold of a knowledge of organic creation-that scientists are, as it were, tempted along separate avenues of investigation by a siren voice that sings, "Search deeper, deeper yet within the well of truth." Each branch of physical inquiry is worthy of the study of a lifetime, and the surgeon who studies a special organ will have a special usefuluess in its treatment. Still, in these cases which have an air of plaus-

ibi ity in their favor, grave inconveniences have at times been found and grave injustice often done through the narrowness of knowledge displayed by specialist lawyers who have been elevated to the bench, and the great medical specialists of metropolitan centres would be little better than learned dummies in a country village.

Take, again, the case of manufacturing arts. The desire for large profits has led to such divisions and sub-divisions of labor that men and women pass their whole lives in some monotonous, mechanical act, such as folding a paper, sticking a dab of glue, or pointing a wire with a file, till all generalization is humdrummed out of them, and if their employer fails or their health fails they become helpless paupers, dependent on public charities.

But what of specialism in the arts of culture, and particularly in the actor's art? Here the evils of specialism, the demoralizing monotony of a solitary groove, become apparent from their exaggerated and irreparable effects. The plausible arguments in favor of specialty in the sciences disappear when it is seen that the highest art depends upon the breadth of observation, the profundity of knowledge and the extent of experience which its devotee poswould rise to the high pinnacles of Fame's temple must know the forms and colors, the disposition, nature and grouping of nearly all things in heaven and earth and much of the natural laws which affect them. They must know the history and the habits of mankind and much of the constructive arts.

The statesman whose knowledge of public affairs should be confined to one country or one department would only hold a portfolio so long as he could conceal his ignorance. The orator who could only speak on one topic and could not adorn even that by allusions to the whole range of literature and learning would soon be speaking to empty benches, for every topic in this world is so curiously bound up in a kind of lacework of human affairs that it is difficult to conceive of any action or even thought, however slight, which has not its relative function and effect upon the whole world of nature, both physical and moral. And the journalist-well, the journalist must be a sort of encyclopædia if he would wield the mighty power of the pen.

The actors art-the art which holds the nirror up to nature. To nature! How general-how comprehensive! Can this field be narrowed without injury? It is no less than nature herself that furnishes to the actor the terial for his art and the arena of its expo-

Every influence from within or without which limits the sympathy of the actor with every phase of human thought which human aguage can express or human expression uplex a thing, so interwoven, such a mixinvarying, so unchanging throughout the upon in the second half of this century, ords of history, so equal in the princely an action and prompt to deeds of love or ing with the severest curriculum might be of Richards will be to

crime, to acts of cowardice or daring. A story is told of an Irish actor in the last How can the actor do justice such a network but by long study and practice in all the varying shades of an passion? The true and finished actor may be compared to the grand cathedral organ by which the whole gamut of passion may be set forth in every changing key and mood. Shall we pass, without proter, by any pitiful in fluence which tends to reduce him to a poor fiddle that will only play one tune?

Where shall we look among the generation of to-day for the giant minds that grasped the whole range of the human intellect in its outward expression? Where are the Kembl the Garricks, the Sheridans of to day? Where can we look for a Forrest, an Edmund Kean or a Phelps, a Mrs. Siddons, a tragedie like Charlotte Cushman, or the graceful, versatile women such as Madame Tyrell? The few names which now are the leading spirits of the profession and its master expo the profession and its master exponents, such as Booth, Irving, Wallack and Salvini, are really men of the last generation who stand out conspicuous, like the splendid columns of the ruined Baalbeck, only, as it were, to show how glorious a temple there

Let it not be inferred that there are not now great numbers of actors and actresses of great historic skill and natural talent. On the contrary, the onward march of general culture, the facilities for travel, the extended supply of public information, and the vast patronage accorded to the drama in all parts of the world, all tend to bring into the ranks a higher class of natural talent, a higher standard of education and a greater refinement of taste.

There are multitudes of actors, honored in their art, who rise, in spite of the drawbacks of the epoch, to a position far above mediocrity; but still they do not furnish examples like those we have named, but rather tend to prove how much they are trammelled by a vicious

For the past few years managers, with the money making question paramount in their minds, have been in the habit of running a piece which strikes the popular fancy, fairly into the earth; have carried it along till the signs become unmistakable that the last coin was squeezed from the public-the very last drop of sugar in the cane extracted. The consequence of this has been that companies have been kept together for months and even years without any necessity, much less stimulus, for new study. Very often when the public of the Metropolis has been played out the play is put on the road, and the same process of fossilizing actors into a solitary role goes on again to months and years.

It is destructive to versatile talent, and if the system goes on it will bring the profession to an almost puerile level. It will bring about a state of things where we shall have a single part as the extent of an actor's ability, and with it an overweening conceit, so far as the actor is concerned, that it is the only part worth playing. The dulling effect of a life passed in the monotony of a daily repetition of the same thing. without the brain making new efforts, will in time convert the Forrest Home into a crowded lunatic asylum and exhaust the Actors' Fund by provision for softened brains. Already the vicious system is telling upon the public, who now are attracted, not by good acting half so much as by fine figures and handsome faces. It has told unfortunately (perhaps fortunately, otherwise promising actor, who, from having first been successful as the hind legs of a dancing cow, and secondly, successful as exhibiting a manly figure, catching a ball dexterously, and broadly caricaturing a popular player, came to think he could carry all Europe with him, and force to admiration the people which have been educated by two centuries of fine acting from the time of Betterton to the present hour. The painful undeceiving that actor has experienced will, if he read between the lines, raise him to a higher standard. Sup pose for a moment he had already had expe rience in a number of parts, such as Charles Surface in The School for Scandal, for which nature seems to have fitted him, how differ ently would such a course of study and practice have prepared him to appeal to the suffrages of a foreign playgoing nation?

Another view of long runs: The goose that laid the golden eggs is often so "played out" that it can never be brought to light again, so that if the piece to follow falls flat, managers instead of being able to repeat at intervals the late favorite must go on experimenting at great expense with new pieces until another golden egg-layer is hatched out. In this series of experiments the gilt gets a good dea worn off the first piece of gingerbread, and thus even from a financial and economic point of view immense runs are of equivocal value.

What were the causes of the power and versatility of the old-school actors? The stock company, with its almost nightly change of play, with its ever recurring necessity for study convey, narrows his capabilities and withdraws of parts at an hour's notice, was a splendid from his armory a weapon. Human life is so school, and by mental tension brought out un suspected powers. It raised the Alumni to ture of vice and virtue in the same person, such the Lupercal and kept them there. It is doubtconflicting motives, such subtlety, such differ- ful if the most skilfully devised national Lying powers, such differing circumstances, when ceum of acting could approach the efficacy of we regard the man, and yet so constant and this system which only began to be broken in

What are the remedies, if any, for this con der and the lowly serf, when we regard the dition of things? That is a difficult problem. less passions and reasons which sway The establishment of a national college of act-

open to a flood of argument on both sides. The influence in France of the Theatre Franvariety actor at the head of the prof ement will be a gigantic gamb which a lucky long run will be the 4-11-44 and all the rest will be blanks. S. C.

Professional Doings.

-Anita Harris and Harry Rose have been -Hermann F. Gruendler has be as musical director for Patti Rosa.

-Eleznor Lane and Charles J. Bell have seen re-engaged for Alone in London.

ns are wanted for Tucker Hall, -Lotta will open the season of the Ne Opera House at Oshkosh, Wis., on Sept. 28.

-The present Summer season at Uhrig's Cave, St. Louis, is the most successful in its

- Frederick Loranger and J. Gordon Ed-vards have been engaged to support Mabel

—The regular season at Pope's Theatre, St. Louis, will open on August 28 with Haverly's Minstrels.

-William Garen, advance agent of Frances Bishop, has gone to Schroon Lake to spend he Summer.

—George Reed, manager of the People's Theatre, Chicago, has taken desk room at Taylor's Exchange. -Patti Rosa plays in Delaware, Ohio, Springfield and Dayton prior to opening in

innati August 22. -Mrs. Isaac Newton, wife of the business manager for Gus. Pitou, is lying seriously ill at her home in Harlem.

—Sydney Rosenfeld is negotiating with the manager of a London theatre for a production there of The Bridal Trap.

—E. A. Hempstead, secretary of the Oil and Iron circuit, has gone to Chautauqua, N. Y., to spend a few weeks of the Summer.

-Clifton W. Tayleure is negotiating with H. S. Taylor to arrange dates for The Scape-goat, in which Mrs. Henrietta Chanfrau is to

—Nanine Palmer is lying seriously ill at her home in West Twelfth stre. t. Her condition has just come under notice of the Actors'

—T. H. Winnett's Passion Slave company opens season on or about Sept. 13 at Hartford Coan. Thirty-five week-stands are already

—Once more O. C. Genther has changed the name of his house in Wheeling, W. Va. It is to be now known as the Grand Opera -Dickson and Talbot have control of all the

houses in Indianapolis, having recently pur-chased Sackett and Wiggins' interest in the Park Theatre.

-Charles H. Stanley has been en play the dude in Aphrodite with the Atkinson company. Mr. Stanley is spending the Sum-mer at Newport.

Robert Fraser has invented and patented a transformation to be used as the last scene — which represents a fairy abode—of his new

—Lizzie Evans' new comedy, Seasands, will be given its first production August 20, at Asbury Park. A very appropriate place to oring out a play with that title. —John Stetson has given Adonis two weeks at the Fifth Avenue from Oct. 4. This ends all discussion as to where Dixey will first seek

American consolation on his return. —James F. Tighe, for two seasons stage manager for Harrison and Gourlay, takes the same position with Fowler and Warmington's Skipped by the Light of the Moon company.

—It is C. W. Tayleure's intention to or-ganize two companies for the performance of The Scapegoat next season. The first for the cities exclusively, and a second for the road.

The sleepy Times on Suoday announced that Lewis Dockstader had taken the Comedy for negro minstrel purposes. The fact was made known through THE MIRROR more than

-Frank A. Tannebill and E. E. Gra will open their season in The Stranglers of Paris on Sept. 6 in Newark. Among the peo-ple engaged are Harry Sailor, Mamie Gilroy and Belie Sutton. Harry Greene will be in

—Rudolph H. Strong arrived in town last week from Boston, where he had had a three weeks' siege with malaria. He was with Mary Anderson the whole of last season, with the exception of the opening six weeks at the Star Theatre.

—T. H. Winnett's European Sensational company is comprised of the following: Prof. Harry M. Parker's dog and cat circus; Queen Sarbro, Enrado, Marco, Hines and Vidqué, Lottie Gilson, Frank and Fanny Doris and John Devoy. C. O. Tennis is the business

—H. S. Taylor took the second degree in Irving Lodge, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Brooklyn, on last Friday night, and on Munday night took two more in the Red Lodge of the same order. J. H. Robb, Milton Nobles and William Moulds are to join the order.

on August 13.

—All the new scenery for James O'Neill's Monte Cristo has been completed, and the season will open on Sept. 6 in New Haven. The company is almost the same as that of last year, being composed of the following: J. W. Shannon, W. V. Price, S. Miller Kent, Elizabeth Robins, Annie Boudinot, Grace Raven, Joseph Ransome, J. H. Shewell, Arthur Leclercq, Carroll Fleming, John Cunningham, William Rigney, Howard Gould, S. Miller, Charles Spoor, Harry McCloskey, Marie Floyd and E. Pelham. E. E. Zimmermon will continue to manage, while Charles N.

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LONDON, July 15.

ogs theatrical are as dull this week as the of comic writers-which is playrather low down on things theatrical, as, but such is really the case. The Ly-continues to be crowded nightly, and the are doing well, but otherwise we have or the most part a beggarly account of empty oxes. The one novelty of the week has been musical one, of which more anon. With a new partly to preparatory training for this us event, and partly because I had better to do, I assisted on Tuesday at ation" of a series of Old Drury which have been arranged by Harris for "Dmitri Slaviansky neff's celebrated Russian choir of sixty ers in splendid historical costumes of nth and Seventeenth centuries." This is how they are described on the bill, and ld be wrong to omit any of their style d title, seeing that "the historical costumes" cally the principal part of the show. cical curiosities, but if the men wore black ow-tails and clean-biled rags, and the were clothed, or half-clothed, in ordiary evening dress, they might have been fifty better and yet falled to catch on. As it they have been "commanded" to Marlgh House, they have enjoyed a fair meaere of success at St. James' Hall, and they which are provided for exquisites of both sexes at the New Club. Whether they will now do my good at Drury Lane remains to be seen ere was a plentiful lack of money in the se on Tuesday afternoon, but Augustus has ed to get some good notices, and at the ance-Saturday afternoon to wit may not only have a high old artistic ne, but with common luck may actually pay

mitri, etc., who bosses the show, is clad in son and gold. He is a thing of beauty and for at least five minutes. He stands on all raised platform in the centre of a row adies who remain seated all the time. Behind them stand the male singers. The ladier wear various shades of white, blue and pink, ut the patterns thereof and the head-dresses unt them I will not attempt to describe, for that way madness lies—at least to him ho is not to the man-millinery born, Dmitri, te., is a fine figure of man. He stands full six high and weighs probably about 250 He leads the singing by voice and ind. Tuesday's concert was divided into two ints-historical and popular. It is not easy tell tother from which in this connection, tery, and finally sadness wins, hands down. tions commenced with a ballad about me of those present hastily jumped to the sclusion that Dmitri, etc., must be the giant tion, but were covered with confus they found the business was an Eleventh ice, mainly developed to a detion of M. Nikiticle's preparations for war er. If I had not known (from the proe) that this was a Russian historical g, I would have thought I had been in the listening to a Gregorian chant. By stages we reached an "entertainment" rom the Government of Tamboff. The of this was "Kalinga, malinka, moya" hich being translated means (according nme), "O my guelder tree; O my bush." The air is supposed to be er than the hills, and it was therefore to discover therein a tune which us of something about "Beautifu with beautiful eyes" was a few years ago ensely popular at the London music-halls, and by we found the basis of a well-known tz melody in another ancient con hich shows either that the Russians have a us knack of anticipation, or that some Desitri, etc., has a pleasing voice, what there is of it, which is not much. As, however, he in't attempt anything out of the way, he igh fairly well. There are some assos in the choir, who might with re have more to do.

ouncement of the ever-popular Il di Siviglia, with Ella Russell as Roeden on Tuesday night, and the result illiant success-at all events, so far as the performers just named. The De Falco-sang badly and acted d was, indeed, take him for all in all, had as had could be. But otherwise ate. Signor Carbone's Bar-Ital, and Signor Pinto was excelo. In the music-lesson Miss

elody, the chief charm of which is, or should e, its sweet simplicity.
The novelty already alluded to was entitle

Florian, a four act Fourteenth century opera, composed by Miss Ida Walter, a daughter of the Times (of Printing House Square, E. C.). This was produced last night at the Novelty Theatre before a crowd of brilliants and fashionables, who vociferously applauded every-thing connected with the piece. This enthusipiece and its exponents (although these were by no means small) as to the fact that Papa Walter, besides being a newspaper proprietor, is, or was, an M. P., and literally rolls in riches. This great position, although in itself possessing many advantages, is likely to seriously hamper Miss Walter in the path of musical progress by causing overmuch praise to be lavished upon her early efforts. This would be a pity, for much of the lady's music is charming, and, still more, shows considerable promise. The sympathetic "stop" prevails, for the story is sad, and deals with the heartbreak of a young mediæval barmaid who loves Florian, a wandering minstrel, and, when she is parted from him, dies of the plague, to the plaintive air of "Scheiden thut Weh." The libretto (based on the story of "Scheiden," etc., as told by the author of the "Atelier du Lys") had been done by Mr. D. and Miss Grace Latham, and not done any too well. In point of fact, the "book is too weak to live long. The daughter of the Times may be encouraged to fresh efforts, but let her look to it that she secures stronger librettists in future. Florian was beautifully mounted and capitally represented by your Miss Griswold (who pathetically played the heroine, Crescenz), by Dorothy Dickson, Jenny Dickerson, W. H. Burgon, Max Eugene and Ben Davies. The last named was the Florian. Last Thursday, Friday and Saturday The

Ticket of-Leave Man was performed at the Novelty, for the benefit of an anonymous barrister who, having fallen upon evil times, mainly through paying more attention to Thespian manners and customs than to his own business, now sends round the hat in a way which reminds one of the lady of quality who being reduced to sell pigs' feet for a livelihood, used to cry "Trotters!" under her breath and pray to goodness that none might hear her. This method has of late become omewhat objectionable in "the higher theatrical circles"-but let that pass. My chief reason for alluding to the show is that the principal characters were assumed by players who have not long returned from your shores The Bob Brierly, for instance, was Arthur Lewis, who lately travelled through the States with Our (also Your) Mary. Denny-who came to you with Nita's First-was the Tiger; J P. "Buckett" Burnett was the Hawkshaw, and Jennie "Jo" Lee essayed the part of Sam Willoughby. I may at once say that the Brierly was finicking and tashionable rather than forcible; that Burnett's detective was careless and colorless, and that Jennie Lee's Sam was of the common, or garden sort, and vulgar in the extreme. Moreover, she "gagged." Fancy gagging in a play like this, in which there is positively not one superfluous line. The best performance of the show was Denny's, whose change from the Tiger to mirable. Robert Soutar (formerly the Gaiety stage manager, and husband of Nellie Farren) resumed his original part of Green Jones, which he first played three-and-twenty years ago, and again scored a success. The anony mous barrister, who called himself Tanfield Court on the bill, was the Melter Moss, and

played fairly well for an amateur. At the Opera Comique Archæologist God win is still doing (and doing for) The Fool's Revenge, plus the comedietta, Delicate Ground, by way of curtain raiser. In this, Hermann Vezin, a somewhat ponderous light comedian, plays Citizen Sangfroid, and the Society Beauty, Mrs. Mackintosh, who is no longer in her first youth, appears as Pauline. On the Op. Com. programme the names of the players are reproductions of their respective autographs. Inquisitive folk have asked what any of the autographers have done that their signatures (some of which would for caligraphy run the late Horace Greeley close) should be preserved. They then paused for a reply, and are likely to keep on pausing.

Godwin has cut up Tennyson's Becket into pastoral playable form and has called the result Fair Rosamond. The Pastoral Players will not do their mummery in Coombe Woods this time. They have chosen Camidyard Woods, Wimbledon, which is part of the domain of Mrs. Leo Schuster. This al fresco business will take place next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, J. Pluvius

The Vaudeville success, Sophia, will be seen at your Mr. Lester Wallack's Theatre early next Fall. K. Bellew is to be the Tom Jones and Charles Groves, a clever character actor, will visit your city for the purpose of playing Partridge the Barber. Minnie Bell will produce two new pieces by Sutherland Edwards at the Crystal Palace next Tuesday. One of them is said to be extremely cerulean.

All the theatres are closing. Next Saturday the shutters will go up at the Vaudeville, the Proch's air with all its own elab- Empire and the Criterion. The Princess' will s and some of her own thrown close on the following Thursday, when Wilson

in, with, however, a most delightful result, which awakened no end of enthusiasm. For encore, she gave "Home, Sweet Home," but to my fancy unduly elaborated that plaintive with a comedy and a ballet of statues. Strange to say, for one of these statues they have no engaged the handsome GAWAIN.

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The History of a Price Trapedy.

then six bundred years—that is to at A. U. 488. These co ally observed as religious rites, it being ed that the ghosts of the dead were propitious by human blood, and were suted for the more nocient custom of de-ely murdering slaves at funerals. It is in at what precise period the be converted into a pastime, but during the that dignity as a popular sport that citizens, andeven Senators and knights, enlisted them-selves with the gladiators to gain the esteem of ce. Not, however, until the reign s, A. D. 79., was the magnificent structure, yet grand in its ruins, the famous Coam, completed and devoted to the speciacule munera. In this vast amphitheatre, with a capacity for seating 87,000 persons, occurred these shows which are at once the marvel and the horror of civilization. That there may be an idea of the exhibitions given on great ocns, or festival or fete days, or in the celebration of some triumphant event, an instance may be cited from the reign of Trajan. History declares this prince to have been good, volent, virtuous and humane; but after his brilliant subjugation of Dacia, the Romans celebrated the triumph through 123 days of aresic spectacles, during which 11,000 animals of different kinds were killed and 10,000 gladiators fought. Though these savage sports flourished most when Rome was the height of her glory as a State, and when learning, art and civilization throve, they were approved on highly philo sophic grounds. They were esteemed, a grace ful writer assures us, as helping to make men insensible to danger, suffering and death; and as the people were often called upon to fight and die in defence of their libertles, it was thought desirable that there should be an "initiatory process in the art of seeing blood shed unmoved," and lessons which should diminish the love and regard for life. Gladiators were first composed of slaves, captives and condemed malefactors-and the latter were to be killed within a year. There was an arrangement, however, by which gladiators could gain their liberty after a certain number of successful battles. Finally, as before stated, free-born citizens, either by hire or by inclination, and even some of noble birth, fought in the arena. The gladiatorswere kept in schools by persons called Lanistæ, who purchased and trained them. Gladiators were of different classes and degrees, distinguished by their armor and manner of fighting. The Secutores wore a helmet, a shield, and asword, or a leaden bullet. Against the se were usually matched the Retiarii, who were dressed in a short tunic, wore nothing on their heads, caaried in their left hands a threepointed lance, and in their right a net with which to entangle the adversary by casting it over his head, suddenly drawing it together, and then with the trident dispatching the helpless Secutor. The Mirmillones were so called because they carried the image of a fish on their helmets. They were armed like a Gaul, with a buckler and a hooked sword or cutlass, and in the arena a Mirmillo was generally matched against a Thracian. There were other classes, including the Catervarii, who fought in numbers and not in pairs.

On the day of the exhibition the gladiators were, matched in pairs, led around the arens in procession, when their swords were examined by the exhibitor, called the Editor, of the games. As a prelude to the battle the gladiators fought with wooden swords, which, at a trumpet signal, were laid aside for their proper arms. If a gladiator fell from his wounds or exhaustion, his adversary could not spare him without the consent of the people, and the victim usually submitted to the fatal thrust with amazing fortitude.

About the year of Rome 680, or 73 B. C., a Thracian shepherd was brought a captive to Rome, and sold a gladiator to Lentulus. This was the Spartacus afterward celebrated for his illities and his victories over the Ruman armies. Among the names and deeds that give to history the color and fascination of romance, partacus and his astonishing exploits are by no means the least interesting. Escaping with me seventy of his companions, he fled to the woods and solitary retreats of the Campania, he soon found himself at the head of men no less resolute than himself. His mbers were steadily augmented by fugitives me and others until he had, after a ime, a fairly disciplined army able to cope with the Roman forces. He laid waste the country and defeat d two Consuls and several subordisate officers. Crassus was finally sent against im with a vast force. This celebrated Geneni at first despaired of overcoming the valor-on Spartacus, who proved himself a man of or ability, and it is not unlikely history rould have recorded a different termination of he two years' war had not some of the followers of Spartacus revolted and deserted him. he deciding battle was a bloody one. Spar-scus behaved with superb courage. When sounded in the leg, he fought upon his knees, covering himself with his buckler in one hand, using his sword with the other, and when at last he fell, he fell upon a heap of Romans whom he had sacrificed to his fury.

This character is the magnificent episode in

bles.

ES

mould. The immortal Forrest, for whom the play was originally written, and who first cre-ated the part that has since become a classic, used to make a powerful impression upon his audiences scenes of this wonderful work, and hen he died it was thought the character mus die with him; for who was there to play it as grandly as he? But McCullough lived, and his massive frame, deep, resounding voice, fine, intelligent face soon made him master of the role; so that the people too soon forgot the older memory and welcomed McCullough as one well worthy to wear the sword and buckler of Forrest, When McCullough failed- and it is a mournful incident, as showing the extremes of Fate, that his last public appearance was in this character-when he failed admirers of his sturdy, noble work sighed sadly, saying, "There is none to succeed him." But the man is always equal to the occasion. Suddenly, while it was yet a regret that this or that one of the actors before the public was unsuited to these noble types of heroic character, a young actor springs into prominence. Robert Downing is the young actor who believes he possesses the physique of a gladiator and the the soul of an artist. Manly in whatever he does-earnest, sincere, conscientious-always seeming to think the character greater than himself, Mr. Downing is one of the few actors seemingly made to rise. The experiment he is about to make will be watched with interes'.

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